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No. 314 September 28, 2008

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'RUDE' POLICE IN THE DOCK

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

Complaints against county force rise by massive 24 per cent

ACCUSATIONS of rudeness and neglect have led to Kent Police seeing the fifth largest increase in complaints of all forces in England and Wales.

Figures released by the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) show 695 complaints were made in 2007/08, compared with 559 for the previous 12 months – a rise of 24 per cent.

Of that figure, 46 per cent of complaints were about staff either neglecting their duties or being rude.

Only those constabularies covering the City of London, Surrey, Sussex and Dyfed-Powys saw larger increases out of the 43 forces in England and Wales.

The figures for Kent also represent a 137 per cent increase in complaints made since 2003/04.

IPCC commissioner Mike Franklin said: "The number of complaints received has risen by 24 per cent in Kent in the space of a year, which is good news in one sense in that it indicates that more people are accessing the complaints service.

"However, one area of real concern across the country has been the large number of complaints involving neglect or rudeness. In Kent, 46 per cent of all complaints were of this nature.

"There is absolutely no excuse for being rude to the public and police officers need to understand that the way they interact with people has a huge impact on the way the public feel about the police.

"We know Kent Police are taking steps to address this, as are other forces around the country, and that is to be welcomed."

The top three causes of complaints made to Kent Police were incivility, impoliteness or intolerance (24 per cent), neglect or failure in duty (22 per cent) and assaults that were neither sexual nor serious (15 per cent).

Ashford MP Damian Green, who is the former Tory spokesman for home affairs, was unhappy with the figures.

He said: "It's obviously concerning that the complaints have gone up and I am sure everyone in the police will take a hard look at these incivility figures and act on them, because it damages relations with the public.

"Of course there are more pressures on officers because of a rise in people being drunk and disorderly and we are sending them out into more difficult situations, but in the end everyone is entitled to be treated in a polite and civil manner."

Complaints made to the IPCC can consist of any number of allegations, of which there were 1,249 made against Kent Police staff, including community support officers and specials.

Of these, 465 were investigated and 413 were resolved before the IPCC became involved. The rest were either discontinued or withdrawn. Of the 465 allegations investigated by the force, 72 were substantiated and the remaining 393 unsubstantiated.

A spokeswoman said the force

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



Bad design is Gateway to hell, asserts Wayne

DESIGNER and business guru Wayne Hemingway didn't mince his words during KOS Media's Construction Expo 2008 in Chatham as he savaged the "foul" and "depressing" developments planned for the Thames Gateway – although the Red or Dead fashion label founder did have praise for other Kent housing developments.

Full Expo report on pages 24 and 25.

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Yves of a historic flight

HISTORY was made when Swiss rocket-man Yves Rossy became the first person to complete a solo jet-propelled flight across the Channel, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The 49-year-old finally achieved his goal on Friday after poor weather prevented him taking off from Calais for two days running.

But it was third time lucky for Mr Rossy, who leapt from a plane after firing the rockets attached to his one-man wing and soared at speeds of 120mph, before parachuting onto Dover's white cliffs 10 minutes later.

A loud cheer greeted his arrival near the South Foreland lighthouse before Mr Rossy was swamped by well-wishers.

He said: "It was perfect. Blue sky, sunny, no clouds – perfect conditions.

"We prepared everything and it was great."

Mr Rossy's stunt came 99 years after Louis Bleriot became the first man to cross the Channel in a powered aircraft.

It was broadcast live in 165 countries by the National Geographic Channel and also on the website www.natgeotv.com.

Mr Rossy said: "I had never flown in a foreign place like the Channel, where all these great aviators such as Bleriot crossed.

"Everything was new. I don't know how many people were looking at me. It felt like I was there but in a parallel world."

Mr Rossy, who has nicknamed himself FusionMan, completed his flight attached to an eight-foot carbon fibre wing powered by four engines. He was able to alter direction by shifting his weight or simply turning his head and shoulders.

Photo: National Geographic Channel/Michel Setboun



WELCOME: A media scrum forms as Yves Rossy, left, lands on Kentish soil

Mr Rossy said he used the village of St Margaret's as a focal point as he approached Dover, as he knew the lighthouse was just to its left. However, he missed his intended landing point slightly – much to the surprise of local hotelier Gavin Oakley.

Mr Oakley said: "I had gone up to watch history being made and decided to keep back from the crowd by the lighthouse.

"You can imagine how stunned I was when he came into view and dropped to earth just yards away. I shook his hand and welcomed him to Kent.

"One of his team shouted to get back in case the engines exploded. I didn't think that was very likely so I took some photos.

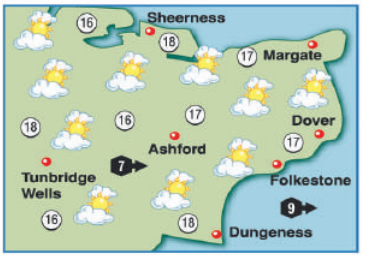
"It was a memorable experience."

Photo: National Geographic Channel/Joel Chant



MADE IT: Thumbs up from Yves Rossy at the South Foreland lighthouse

Kent today



TODAY: Any early mist and fog patches will clear to leave a fine day, as it will be dry with sunny spells and variable cloud. Gentle westerly winds. Max temp 15-18C (59-64F).

TONIGHT: Dry with variable cloud cover and clear spells. Gentle winds. Min temp 6-9C (43-48F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	14	57	London	fair	15	59
Belfast	fair	18	64	Liverpool	fair	18	64
Birmingham	cloudy	14	57	Manchester	fair	15	59
B'mouth	cloudy	16	61	Newcastle	fair	14	57
Bristol	fair	17	63	Norwich	fair	15	59
Cardiff	fair	17	63	Oxford	fair	17	63
Cork	cloudy	14	57	Southsea	fair	17	63
Edinburgh	fair	14	57	S'hampton	fair	15	59
Glasgow	cloudy	13	55	Southport	sun	–	–
Isle of Man	fair	14	57	Swansea	fair	17	63
Leeds	fair	14	57	Torquay	fair	17	63

Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.52am	Sunset	6.39pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	5.47am	Moonset	5.59pm	6.39pm to 6.53am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	11.16	6.6	23.41	6.5	11.51	6.8	–	–
Margate	00.06	4.8	12.12	4.8	00.48	4.8	12.51	4.9
St Mary's	04.48	5.4	17.05	5.7	05.24	5.6	17.41	5.8

Week ahead

monday	Cloudy. Dry. max 16C min 10C	thursday	Sunny spells. max 15C min 7C
tuesday	Isolated showers. max 16C min 9C	friday	Sunny spells. max 15C min 8C
wednesday	Cloudy. Dry. max 18C min 8C	saturday	Heavy rain max 15C min 8C

Complaints against force up by quarter

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

was currently rewriting the Kent Police Standard to improve the level of service it provides to the public.

She added: "We take any complaint seriously and actively encourage anyone who has concerns regarding policing in their area to contact us.

"Kent Police receive an average of more than 1.5 million calls per year. The total number of complaints investigated represents 0.05 per cent of those calls."

Mark Gilmartin, chief executive of the Kent Police Authority, said one of the reasons for the rise in complaints was a "change in recording practices".

He added: "As the police watchdog we're not in any way complacent and take an active interest. The most recent work by Her Majesty's Constabulary Inspectorate found that Kent Police are good at investigating and responding to complaints raised."

Ian Pointon, chairman of Kent Police Federation, which represents rank-and-file officers, said: "What you have to remember is that police officers have to exercise a certain amount of power over people and have to tell them what to do and a lot of people don't like that. For every complaint received about the police, we also receive two or three letters of compliments."

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beautridge said: "Our officers are sometimes faced with confrontational situations and we handle the vast majority with the utmost professionalism." But he admitted: "We recognise that 72 [substantiated] cases is too many and are working hard to improve the service we provide to the public."

• Kent Police have agreed to pay compensation to animal rights campaigners who were denied the right to protest about live exports at Dover.

Those who can prove they were on a bus turned away from the docks in 2006 will each receive £1,250. The campaigners claim they were forced back onto the vehicle and unlawfully imprisoned.

Road statistics include 174 child casualties

NEW figures show that 174 children were killed or seriously injured on roads in Kent and Medway in 2007.

And the statistics from the Department for Transport also revealed there were 594 cyclist casualties and 773 motorcyclists hurt last year.

The DfT said it showed the Government had made progress in its casualty reduction targets.

Among the targets is a 50 per cent reduction in the number of under-16s killed or seriously injured by 2010.

Earlier figures released in June revealed that 98 people had been killed on Kent and Medway's roads during 2007.

The South East as a whole matched the national trend for an overall reduction in the numbers killed in road incidents last year with a drop in fatalities of 20.

There were 8,043 casualties overall last year on Kent's roads, which includes those killed, severely injured and slightly injured.

A total of 269 pedestrians were killed or seriously injured.

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Museum displays John Ward's 1968 watercolour of actress

Portait proves she's always been Ab Fab

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
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A PORTRAIT of a young Joanna Lumley is one of the main attractions at an exhibition celebrating 150 years of Maidstone Museum.

The watercolour is the work of the late Kent artist John Stanton Ward, who was once employed by the fashion magazine Vogue.

Actress Lumley, perhaps best known for playing the chain-smoking Patsy in the popular BBC sitcom Absolutely Fabulous, posed for the picture in 1968 when she was just 22.

The painting will be placed in the white section of the museum's Kaleidoscope display, which signifies 150 years of colourful collection.

Keeper of fine art Fiona Woolley said Lumley spoke fondly of the painting when she opened an exhibition of Ward's work in Canterbury last year.

She said: "Unfortunately he died a short time before, but it was lovely to hear Joanna speak so fondly of him.

"She said he worked in a way that put her at ease, much like many model photographers do, and she was really happy with the finished product.



ISN'T SHE LUMLEY: John Ward's portrait of 22-year-old model and aspiring actress Joanna was painted in 1968

"The portrait has been displayed in the offices of Maidstone council in the past, but it's been in the stores for quite a while now.

"Being a watercolour it is susceptible to light damage and will fade rather quickly, so we can only keep it on display for about six months at a time before we put it away again for a couple of years."

Born in Hereford on October 10, 1917, Ward showed a flair for art from a young age.

He attended the Royal College of Art either side of serving with the Royal Engineers during World War Two, before being hired by Vogue in 1948.

Ward left the magazine in 1952 and made a name for himself as one of the best portrait painters of his generation, listing Princess Anne and Sir Roger Bannister among the many personalities who posed for him.

Having lived in Kent for the majority of his life, he was later awarded the freedom of the city of Canterbury.

Lumley, now 62, was a young model who had not yet made her acting debut by the time Ward drew her, but she later found widespread fame for her portrayal of Purdey in the 1970s adventure series The New Avengers.



SITCOM: Joanna as Patsy Stone in Absolutely Fabulous

Mrs Woolley said the painting was one of many on display as part of the Kaleidoscope exhibition. She added: "The feedback has been really positive so far, and it's been quite popular with some of our younger visitors because it is so colourful.

"We wanted to show people how diverse our collection is and I think we've achieved our goal."

Maidstone Museum is open every Monday to Saturday, from 10am until 5.15pm.

For more information visit www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk or call 01622 602838.

Cathedral memorial service for Sandy

A SERVICE of thanksgiving is to be held in honour of Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart at Canterbury Cathedral.

The former leader of Kent County Council and chairman of English Heritage died last month after a long battle with cancer. The service will be on Thursday, November 27, from 11am. Entrance to the cathedral will be by ticket only.

To request a ticket, write to the Civic Office, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ, call 01622 694067 or 01622 694316, or email sblmemorial@kent.gov.uk.

Donations in memory of Lord Bruce-Lockhart can be sent to the Heart of Kent Hospice c/o Viner and Sons Ltd, 54 High Street, West Malling, ME19 6LU.

Alarm over losses

CONCERN has been raised that the loss of senior officers at Kent County Council will lead to poorer delivery of services.

The Labour group said the authority's chief executive, Peter Gilroy, admitted at a meeting on Wednesday that he was taking on the environment and regeneration director vacancy and any complaints about highway services.

Cllr Mike Eddy, shadow leader of KCC, said: "You have to be concerned when senior councillors and officers tell you vacancies won't have an impact on services."

Rope swing lad dies

A TEENAGER has died after an incident involving a rope swing in a play area. Police were called to the Buckland estate in Dover at 7.30pm on Thursday.

Three teenagers had been playing on a hand-made rope swing. It is believed one of them fell and sustained serious injuries. The 14-year-old was taken to the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, where he later died.

Snakey's back home

A DEADLY snake has been returned to its X Factor finalist owner after going missing in Chatham six weeks ago.

Snakey the six-foot boa constrictor was back in its St Mary's Island home on Wednesday after being found in a neighbour's garage.

Owner Ashley McKenzie said he was "overwhelmed" by Snakey's return.

Police death smash family wanted justice for child

THE father of a woman motorist who died as her vehicle was hit by a speeding police patrol car said he took on the force in the courts for the sake of his granddaughter, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

A judge this week ruled that PC William Purse was "100 per cent at fault" for the road smash in which Rachel Cheesewright, 29, from Kennington, died.

It followed an inquest and probe by the Independent Police Complaints Authority that concluded her death was accidental, while the Crown Prosecution Service had said there was insufficient evident to prosecute PC Purse.

But Tony Cheesewright, 67, the father of Miss Cheesewright, vowed to continue his fight for her daughter, Charlotte. Earlier this year, the family started a civil case in an attempt to show Kent Police were responsible for her death.

On Tuesday, Judge Jonathan Simpkiss gave a damning verdict at Canterbury County Court in favour of the Cheesewrights. He said: "My judgement is that the police were 100 per cent at fault."

Mr Cheesewright, who is retired, now looks after Charlotte with his wife, Marsha, at their home in Ashford. He said: "The stress has been terrible, for my wife particularly, and everyone concerned.

"Central to all this is our granddaughter. We were determined she should have some redress from what happened. To be honest, without Charlotte I am not sure I would have pursued it so far. What I think has shocked the coppers more than anything else is the fact that someone has taken them on."



TRAGEDY: Rachel Cheeseman with daughter Charlotte

His daughter died in October 2005 on the A28 near Bethersden after finishing a shift at the Bonny Cravat pub in Woodchurch. Her Fiesta was hit by a police car answering a 999 call in Tenterden. PC Purse admitted in court that he had been travelling at 100mph just before the crash. The impact sliced Miss Cheesewright's car in two, killing her instantly.

She had been planning to marry her long-term partner, Lewis Whitehead, and her daughter, Charlotte, was eight years old at the time.

Kent Police are being sued for damages arising from Miss Cheesewright's death, including a loss of dependency claim on behalf of Charlotte.

The judge refused Kent Police an appeal on Tuesday. However, the force is expected to take the case to the Court of Appeal. A statement said: "Kent Police are considering the judgement awarded against the force in a civil claim by the family of a young woman who died after her car was in collision with a police vehicle.

"Kent Police were refused leave to appeal against the decision. The force is considering the judgement and cannot make any further statement at this time."



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You can keep it clean say Greens

Party slams Labour conference speech on need to use 'dirty' energy sources

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE Green Party in Kent has responded angrily to the Business Secretary's forceful speech stating that "dirty" energy sources are vital for the country's future.

At the Labour Party conference in Manchester this week, John Hutton made the case for new coal power stations and a "renaissance in nuclear power" as crucial for a secure and long-term supply of energy.

Steve Dawe, spokesman for the Kent Green Party, said: "The Government needs to stop these knee-jerk reactions and coming up with 1950s solutions to 21st century problems.

"Compared to other European governments, Britain is at the bottom of the league table in terms of renewables, building insulation and building standards because of its primitive energy policies."

E.ON wants to build a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth and ministers are currently considering the £1 billion application.

Confroversial

Mr Dawe said: "I'd suggest that we are not going to run out of sunlight or wind, but we can run out of cheap coal, oil and uranium and we can do so in a relatively short space of time."

The Environment Agency warned this week that coal plants must not be built unless they can capture and store CO2. The Government's final decision on Kingsnorth is due within months and opponents fear it could pave the way for a wave of similar stations.

In his controversial conference speech, Mr Hutton argued that the country's emissions were capped by EU legislation and building new coal plants would make no difference overall.

Greenpeace said the plants could not be an option because of their huge contribution to climate change. If the Government met its own targets for energy efficiency and renewables there would be no need for new nuclear or coal, they claimed.

Mr Dawe said huge cuts in energy usage were possible if British buildings were properly insulated and households were more self-reliant through installing solar panels and solar water heating.

French power giants EDF bought British Energy, which owns eight nuclear power stations including Dungeness, on Wednesday.



COAL POWER: The Green Party opposes Labour plans for coal-fired power stations such as Kingsnorth

The £12.5 billion deal is set to hasten the Government's new nuclear programme.

However, the Kent reactor is among four sites EDF wants to put up for sale.

Mr Dawe said this would delay a new nuclear power station being built at the site and added that its low-lying coastal position, coupled with rising sea levels, made it more unattractive for investment.

He said the extraction of uranium and construction of nuclear plants would produce a significant amount of emissions from "dirty" fossil fuels.

He said the Government was ignoring the increase in aviation and marine emissions and its British investment overseas when calculating its emissions as only two per cent of the world's, claiming it was more like 14 per cent.

"It is clear Gordon Brown only grudgingly pays attention to climate change," he added.

At the Lib Dems' conference in Bournemouth the party's leader Nick Clegg said he was against new coal and nuclear.

"Together we are going to have to use less energy," he said. "And much less dirty energy. It's the only way to stop the growing threat of disastrous climate change."

Tory leader David Cameron has said he is against new coal plants without carbon capture technology. He has supported new nuclear, but said a Conservative government would not provide public funding for the programme.

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FIGHT BACK: Labour delegates watch Gordon Brown's speech at conference

Brown's speech will unite party say county MPs

LABOUR MPs in Kent believe this week's conference has put the party in a stronger position and restored faith in the Prime Minister.

Both Stephen Ladyman and Jonathan Shaw agreed with Deputy Leader Harriet Harman's assertion that "the fight back has begun".

Dr Ladyman, MP for South Thanet and a former transport minister, said the conference was a "huge success".

He added: "Gordon Brown's speech exceeded my expectations."

Dr Ladyman said the proof of success was in the post-conference opinion polls, which showed a seven-point gain. He said this position would gain momentum with the Autumn Statement and put the party in a stronger position to win a fourth term of office.

Mr Shaw, MP for Chatham, is a junior minister at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and Minister for the South East.

He said of the Prime Minister: "I know him privately and see a variety of different sides to Mr Brown.

"I think what I and a lot of other people have been saying to him is that he needs to ensure that everyone sees the different sides. Some of these need to come to the fore and they did in his speech at conference."

Mr Shaw could not attend the conference as he was in France on Defra business.

Tories gather in Birmingham

THE CONSERVATIVE Party conference is set to begin today in Birmingham.

Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London, will outline his vision for the capital, which includes the boroughs of Bromley and Bexley, on the opening day.

Greg Clark, the MP for Tunbridge Wells and shadow charities minister, will be speaking at a fringe event tomorrow entitled: Can the Conservative Party be the Party of the Poor?

Cllr Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council, will be speaking about the need to engage young voters, along with Oliver Rawlinson, from the Kent Youth Parliament.

Damian Green, the shadow minister for immigration and the MP for Ashford, will be speaking at a talk on Tuesday called Can the Conservative Party be Tough on Immigration and Remain the 'Party of Business'?

The conference will be closed by a speech from David Cameron on Wednesday.

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Going back to Iraq

Troops to embark upon third tour of duty

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SOLDIERS from Kent's county regiment are gearing up for their third tour of Iraq.

Defence secretary Des Browne has confirmed that the 1st Battalion The Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment – which has its headquarters in Canterbury – will be deployed to Basra in the south of the war-torn country in November.

Some of the 1PWRR soldiers who will join up with the 20th Armoured Brigade have served in Iraq twice, in 2004 and 2006.

Brigade commander Brigadier Tom Beckett said: "Each time the brigade has deployed, the operational situation has been different. Each time there have been different challenges.

"This year we go knowing there is optimism in Iraq that the dark days of previous years can be contained. This is especially true in Basra.



Picture: SGT ANTHONY BOOCOCK RLC

ON PATROL: Troops from The 1st Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (1PWRR) clear a pontoon bridge crossing the Shatt al-Arab Waterway in Basra City during the last deployment of the 20th Armoured Brigade to Iraq in 2006

"The Iraqi Security Forces are in the lead securing and serving the population, and we will support them in their endeavours.

"With security in place, the government of Iraq – at national, provincial and local levels – will be better able to develop good governance and economic gains.

"At the same time we will ensure our activity supports the aims and goals of the Multi-National Force."

More than 350 troops will be sent with the brigade to Basra, where they will be taking part in Operation Telic 13.

Last month it was announced that a further detachment of 170 soldiers from B Company 1PWRR will deploy to Afghanistan for six months with the Royal Marines.

Challenges

Brig Beckett said of Operation Telic 13: "We are in no doubt that there will be challenges ahead of us. The training we are conducting now will be hard but realistic so we can face those challenges and overcome them.

"It will also prepare us to read the nuances of the operational environment so we can seize opportunities.

"In this way, God willing, by the end of our tour Basra will have changed once again for the better."

Nicknamed the Armoured Tigers, the 1PWRR were last in southern Iraq during the summer of 2006, when they were deployed across the provinces of Basra and Amarah.

A number of soldiers serving with the battalion received operational awards following the tour, including the Conspicuous Gallantry Cross to Colour Sergeant James Harkness and the Military Cross to 19-year-old Army medic Private Michelle Norris.

Kent on Sunday reporter Jamie McGinnes spent time with the Tigers in Afghanistan last month, and actor/presenter Ross Kemp has also been with them filming a documentary.

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A lunch for heroes

FIVE brave soldiers were honoured with a lunch at the home of the Lord Lieutenant of Kent.

Allan Willett and his wife Anne opened the doors of their house in Chilham, near Canterbury, as part of an ongoing drive to encourage greater public support for the Armed Forces.

The lunch was also used to raise awareness of the Help for Heroes charity, which aids servicemen wounded while on duty.

Among the guests was Lance Corporal Johnson Beharry, a soldier with Kent's county regiment The Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment.

He was awarded the Victoria Cross for valour in 2005 for twice saving members of his unit from ambushes despite being severely wounded.

Also in attendance was former Battle of Britain fighter Bob Foster and his fellow World War Two soldiers Peter Doresa and Jeffrey Haward.

The final member of the gathering was warrant officer Tony Wyles, who is a member of the Territorial Army serving with 221 Field Squadron (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), Royal Engineers, at Rochester.

He was awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal in 2003 for rescuing civilian casualties after explosions in Iraq.



THANK YOU: Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Allan Willett (far left) with his five guests

Mrs Willett said: "It was a privilege for us to host a gathering of such a modest group of true heroes and wonderful role models."

Meanwhile, members of Tonbridge and Malling council have paid tribute to the "outstanding bravery and professionalism" shown by officers and soldiers of 36 Engineer Regiment during their recent tour of service in Afghanistan.

At a meeting on Tuesday, borough mayor Cllr Chris Smith presented a framed declaration to Major David Garner in recognition of a job well done.



FIRST TOUR: Leading nurse Charlie Eve

Navy nurse all ready for Afghanistan

A FORMER Kent schoolgirl now serving as a Royal Navy nurse says she would rather fall ill in Afghanistan than anywhere else in the world.

Leading naval nurse Charlie Eve, 24, from Deal, will be deployed to the war-torn country as part of a 300-strong medical team with 3 Commando Brigade.

Miss Eve, who attended Folkestone School for Girls, will be based at the Camp Bastion hospital complex in Helmand Province for three months and said she was looking forward to taking care of her injured colleagues.

She added: "The levels of medical skills we are taking are phenomenal and everything is done to the top level.

"The teamwork is great and the standards really are superb.

"It sounds strange, but the quality of care is so good that if I had to fall ill anywhere I'd choose Camp Bastion."

Earlier this month Miss Eve, who joined the Navy 18 months ago, took part in a three-day training exercise at a specialist military facility in York.

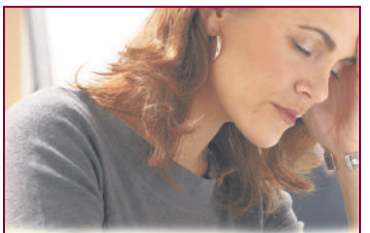
The sessions were designed to hone the medical unit's skills in a tough, realistic and pressurised environment.

Miss Eve said: "As it is my first tour I'm a little apprehensive but am pleased to be going to do the job I was trained for.

"We are well protected out there and the whole team is very close-knit. I volunteered for the deployment. It will be challenging but those are our soldiers over there and we want to do all we can to support them."

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Return of Big Al

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A DINOSAUR exhibition at a museum has proved a roaring success with more than 20,000 people attending.

Tunbridge Wells Museum and Art Gallery, which is run by the town's borough council, said the summer show attracted more than double the normal visitor numbers.

Katrina Burton, audience development officer for the museum, said the universal appeal and mystery surrounding the lives of prehistoric creatures had made the exhibition such a success.

"The dinosaur theme appeals to everyone," she said. "They are big, scary and fierce and a bit mystical because they were around so long ago.

"The science part of it appeals because people are interested in how we can find out more about them, how they lived and how they became extinct."

Visitors of all ages flocked to The Ballad of Big Al: A Walking With Dinosaurs Exhibition, which displayed some of the models used in the popular BBC television series.

Fans were able to watch footage from the show, which told the story of Big Al, an allosaurus which roamed the Earth 145 million years ago.

The exhibition also marked the 75th anniversary of the discovery of iguanodon fossils at High Brooms, near Tunbridge Wells.

"The remains were found in an old brick pit while workers were digging clay. They found this huge dinosaur," Ms Burton said.

"Iguanodons were land-dwelling herbivores. They lived in this high Weald area which at the time had a big freshwater lake."

The distinguishing feature of the creatures is thumb spikes, which experts believe could have been used as defence against predators, she said.

Two thigh bones and a section of backbone from an iguanodon were discovered in 1933. They are thought to be 136 million years old.

"It is quite a significant find, especially for this country because there are not that many dinosaur remains discovered in Britain," Ms Burton added.



BIG STAR: The Ballad of Big Al exhibition was a huge success Picture: copyright BBC 2003

Cllr James Scholes, borough council portfolio holder for communities, said many families had been to the exhibit several times.

"The museum is an important resource for attracting visitors," he said. "That so many people visited throughout July and August proves the exhibitions selected are exactly what people are interested in."

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Rude awakening as police crack down on tyre-some antics

BOY racers who made a nuisance of themselves on a seafront road and car park have received a rude awakening from police.

Officers visited addresses in Herne Bay on Tuesday morning to issue offenders with warning notices.

They also called at homes in Whitstable, Chartham and on the Isle of Sheppey.

Complaints had been made to the police about antisocial drivers in the Central Parade and Neptune car park area of Herne Bay, which led to the operation.

Some of the nine offenders spoken to were told they would be reported for driving without due consideration.

Officers have the power to seize vehicles if their owners are caught committing similar offences in the future.



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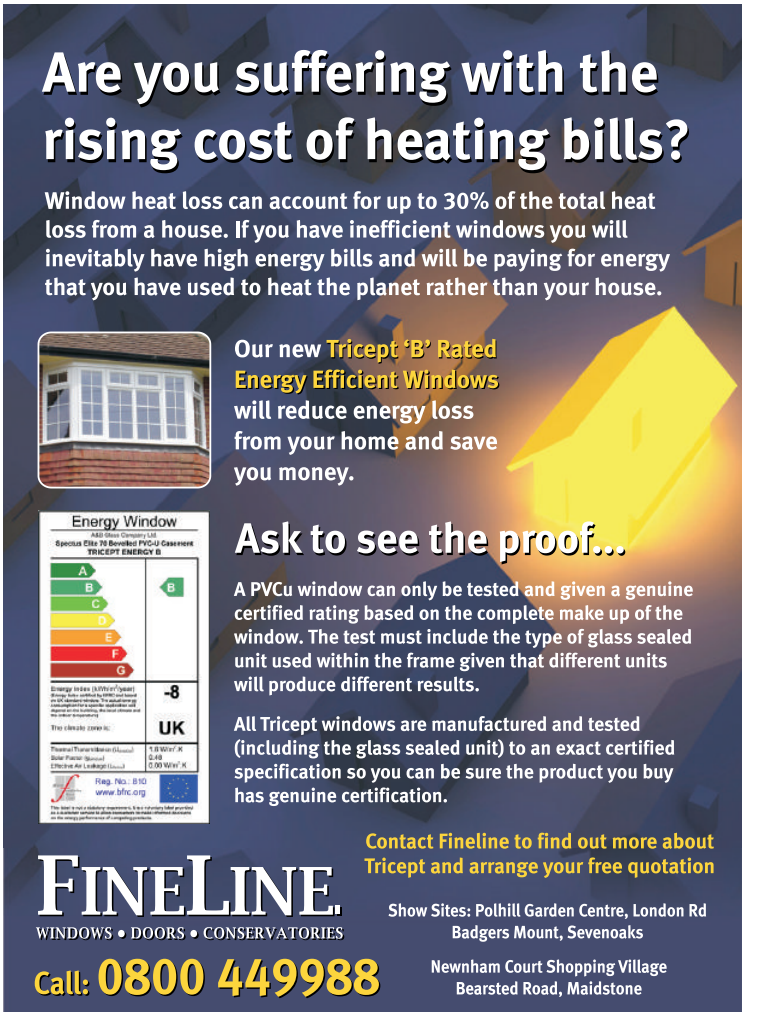
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A taste of Nepal

KENT'S Nepalese community is set to celebrate its most renowned festival, Dashera.

The celebration represents the victory of good over evil and symbolises reunion with family and friends.

Guests at the event in Maidstone can expect traditional Nepalese dancing and delicious food.

Hundreds of serving and former Gurkhas, who are recruited from Nepal, live in Kent with their families.

Limbu Ratna, chairman of the county town's Nepalese community organisation, said: "We want to share this special festival with our friends in Maidstone and look forward to welcoming them."

The 15-day national festival traditionally takes place after the rice harvest.

The Kent celebration will be at Maidstone Leisure Centre, between 7.30pm and 10pm, next Friday.

For more information, call 07828 129 099 or email dkhadka024@yahoo.co.uk.

KCC investments 'will consider UN ethics code'

KENT County Council has agreed to consider more carefully in future whether it should invest in "unethical" firms, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Finance chiefs came under fire last year when the council was accused of pumping millions into the tobacco, oil and arms industries.

But following an 18-month campaign by the Kent Green Party and other pressure groups, including Unison and the Campaign Against Arms Trade, KCC has now agreed to include the United Nations' "principles of responsible investment" into its investment policies.

Stuart Jeffery, prospective parliamentary candidate for Maidstone and the Weald, was pleased with the decision.

He said: "This represents a small but welcome step in the right direction to bring ethics into KCC's investments.

"The groups campaigning to clean up the council's policies have clearly had an impact but the council still needs to go further.

"The UN's principles of responsible investment increase the openness of investments and ensure ethics are at least considered by KCC, which is great in itself.

"Sadly, the council maintains its stance that financial considerations outweigh all others, so we will continue to ask them to disinvest from the obvious unethical industries, such as arms and tobacco."

The cash invested by KCC comes from the £2.6 billion Kent Pension Fund, which is for 40,000 public sector workers. About £2 billion of that is in stocks and shares.

A Freedom of Information Act request from the Greens showed that £13.9 million of the shares were in BAE Systems, which deals with the military industry. A further £10.1 million was invested in British American Tobacco and £39 million in Shell.

Last year, head of financial services Nick Vickers defended KCC's investment policy by saying companies chosen by any other method than how good a return they would make could result in a hike in council tax.

Despite KCC now agreeing to consider the ethics of investing, Mr Jeffery said he was not hopeful of any great changes.

He said: "The worry is that the UN's principles will just be treated as something written on a piece of paper that isn't very important. But I hope it will be taken seriously."

Deputy leader, Cllr Alex King, confirmed KCC's superannuation fund committee had agreed to endorse the UN principles.

But he defended the firms currently being invested in, adding that "any decision to exclude categories of company would be in breach of our legal financial responsibility to the taxpayer".

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County's top Tory dismisses London Mayor's comments on Estuary runway idea

An airport off Kent's coast is just pie in the sky, Boris

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

LONDON Mayor Boris Johnson needs to learn a thing or two about Kent's landscape, says county council leader and fellow Tory, Paul Carter.

Mr Johnson angered residents, environmentalists and politicians alike this week when he suggested a new airport on an artificial island off Sheppey could be the answer to overcrowding at Heathrow.

Cllr Carter has criticised similar proposals in the past and says there is "no hope" of such a scheme being implemented.

He told KOS Media: "I think Mr Johnson's suggestion is a bridge too far.

"All the mist and fog in the autumn and the wind and potential flood problems in the winter would make Sheppey entirely unsuitable for an airport.

"A much better solution would be to expand Manston airport and bring much-needed prosperity to the east of the county.

"We are making our views known to Mr Johnson's office but the sooner we get together the better.

"I don't think he even knows where Manston is, so clearly needs educating about it. I find it very frustrating when he says things like this and we obviously need to have a chat."

Cllr Carter said he did not expect to be able to speak to Mr Johnson at the Tory party conference, which starts this weekend, but added he would at one of two meetings the pair will attend next month.

Mr Johnson's comments also angered members of KCC's Labour group, who say the mayor is trying to placate west London voters opposed to the growth of Heathrow.

Shadow cabinet spokesman Cllr Roger Truelove described it as "another barmy Tory proposal".

He added: "Mr Johnson is clearly putting London first and is showing a complacent disregard for Kent.

"The notion an airport could be built in the Thames Estuary and then linked somehow to the high-speed domestic train service from Sittingbourne is schoolboy thinking. The investment overheads at a time of cost pressures on the whole air passenger industry are truly prohibitive. Kent has insufficient commercial and passenger hinterland to justify a London airport.



NO HOPE: London Mayor Boris Johnson

"All logic suggests the obvious location for growth, if it is really necessary, is to the west of London.

"What strikes me as truly disturbing is that the Mayor of London can make these sorts of remarks with, presumably, no consultation with his colleagues in Kent."

According to the RSPB, the Thames Estuary has one of the biggest collections of special protection areas in Europe and is used by about 300,000 migratory birds.

South East director Chris Corrigan said to build an airport in it would potentially be "the single biggest piece of environmental vandalism" ever perpetrated in the UK.

He added: "Mr Johnson doesn't seem to have grasped UK law that before you destroy a protected habitat you have to recreate it somewhere else first.

"How do you recreate massive areas of the Thames Estuary? And even then he would have to prove there is no alternative site for the expansion anywhere else. It's just ludicrous.

"We have been here before and the facts remain the same – the idea of an airport in the Thames Estuary is a total non-starter."

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Archbishop leads attack on greed as markets reel

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has attacked City traders after global financial markets were plunged into crisis.

Dr Rowan Williams, writing in the Spectator magazine on Friday, warned of the dangers of "unbridled capitalism".

"It is no use pretending the financial world can maintain indefinitely the degree of exemption from scrutiny and regulation that it has got used to," he wrote.

His comments come as another senior figure in the Church of England, the Archbishop of York, called traders who cashed in on falling prices "bank robbers and asset strippers".

Dr John Sentamu was speaking to City workers at the Worshipful Company of International Bankers on Wednesday.

The remarks come after a week which saw four major financial institutions going bankrupt or being taken over, including HBOS.

Dr Sentamu said: "Those who made £190million deliberately underselling HBOS shares, in spite of its strong capital base, are clearly bank robbers and asset strippers."

Lorry driver loses arm in block fall

A DELIVERY driver had his arm amputated outside a house when a block fell on him from the back of his lorry.

The 43-year-old from Lincolnshire was delivering marble and granite to an address in Minster, Thanet, when the accident happened, at about 7.05am on Thursday.

Police officers closed the road at the junction with Church Street.

The Heath and Safety Executive has been informed.



GANGSTER WRAP: Members of Greenwich Young People's Council at the film festival in 2007. They are also having a film shown this year, called Gangs in London, alongside a short movie based on Jack the Ripper, by Kelly Palmer from Ramsgate

Kelly earns festival slot with eerie Ripper movie

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A TALENTED teenager will have her work showcased at a national film festival next month.

An interpretation of what the victims of Jack the Ripper may have gone through by Ramsgate's Kelly Palmer earned her a six-minute slot at the Co-operative Young Film-Makers Festival, which starts on October 9.

The two-day event, at the National Media Museum in Bradford, has provided young people with the opportunity to air their films on the big screen since 1966.

Kelly, 19, made her film as part of a BTEC course in art and design at the Marlowe Academy, Ramsgate.

She said: "My teacher gave me the form the day before the entry deadline and I managed to send it off in time.

"I didn't really expect my work to be chosen, but they sent me a letter with the news last month and I was really excited.

"It feels pretty amazing to know my work will be shown at such a big festival. I really want to go, but I'm not sure I'll be able to because it's so far away."

Kelly's work was one of 100 chosen from more than 250 entries nationwide.

Each film will be shown over the course of nine screenings throughout the festival, with themes ranging from dramas and documentaries to comedies and music videos.

But of all the work on display, perhaps none will be as dark as the production entitled Victims.

Kelly said: "The film is based on the Jack the Ripper killings, which I was interested in and had carried out research on.

"It follows the last moments of some of his victims, with each one being slightly different from the last. For instance, in one you can only see a woman's eyes until the killer becomes visible in them.

"It's very eerie and quite dark and scary."

As well as the large number of films shown at the Bradford festival, youngsters will also have the opportunity to take part in workshops covering such subjects as screenwriting, acting, Bollywood dancing and creation of movie soundtracks.

They will also have the chance to make a short animated film with David Bunting, who lists Disney's The Tigger Movie among his credits.

Kelly now attends the University for the Creative Arts in Farnham, Surrey, where she is studying animation.

She said: "I really do like watching films and animation is something I'm quite strong at, so it would be good to take it up as a career one day.

"I've also entered some work into the Canterbury Animation Festival, so hopefully it will be shown at that as well."

All screenings at the Bradford festival are free, although some workshops have a small ticket price.

For a full programme call 0161 246 2216 or email info@youngfilm-makers.coop.



GIRL ON FILM: The Co-operative Young Film-Makers festival began in 1966

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Conference to celebrate our seniors

HEALTH, access to transport, finance and inequalities in the council tax system are among the issues to be discussed at a senior citizens' conference in Canterbury.

The event is being held to mark International Day for Older People on Wednesday and will celebrate the contribution pensioners make to the community.

Anne Belworthy, chairwoman of the East Kent Association of Senior Citizens' Forums, which is running the event, has been invited by Prime Minister Gordon Brown to attend a Downing Street reception to celebrate the day.

She said she would be chairing the conference until after lunch before heading to London.

"The day will bring together the pensioners' forums, statutory decision makers and voluntary groups from across East Kent," she said.

"The purpose is to build understanding and commitment between the sectors to better inform and design older people's services and opportunities across East Kent."

Dot Gibson, vice-president of the National Pensioners' Convention, will be the keynote speaker at the event.

The Full of Life conference will be held from 10am to 3pm at Kent County Cricket Club's St Lawrence Ground, in Old Dover Road, Canterbury.

MPs back poll's aims on fuel poverty action

MEMBERS of Parliament in the South East are looking for a more thorough fuel poverty package than that offered by the Government, says a new survey.

According to a poll of 153 MPs carried out by the British Gas Help the Aged Partnership, four out of five felt the strategy needed to be revised with more emphasis on improving the energy efficiency of homes.

Spokesman Mervyn Kohler said: "After eight years of worthy but patchy effort following the fuel poverty strategy, our housing stock still haemorrhages heat and more than two million pensioners are fuel-poor.

"It's vital the information available on long and short-term cost-cutting programmes reaches those most in need."

A breakdown of how Kent MPs responded was not available.

Healthcare warning as shake-up fails scrutiny

POLITICIANS have rejected plans to reorganise hospital services – despite a warning from health bosses that the system cannot cope.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

The proposals, which would lead to major changes in the way healthcare is provided in north Kent and south-east London, include cutting A&E and four other units, including maternity, at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup (QMS).

A Picture of Health, the NHS organisation leading the programme, said change was essential because none of the hospital trusts was meeting clinical guidance.

The proposals, which affect QMS, Princess Royal University Hospital in Farnborough, Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Woolwich, and University Hospital Lewisham, have met with tough opposition locally.

The joint health overview and scrutiny committee, which includes elected members from Bromley, Bexley, Lewisham and Greenwich councils, referred the reconfiguration to Health Secretary Alan Johnson at a meeting on September 10.

A spokesman for A Picture of Health said: "The referral to the Secretary of State will delay us making improvements to hospital services. We will undertake a clinical risk assessment to mitigate any impacts of the delay."

Michael Chuter, chairman of the joint primary care trust committee, told the councils committee before the meeting that changes to services would reduce avoidable deaths and disability and improve outcomes for mothers and babies.

He warned that delaying the changes would have the opposite effect. Cllr Sharon Massey, cabinet member for health at Bexley council, said the public consultation process had been "flawed" and the NHS had not listened to local opinions.

"The decision was driven by finance, because QMS does not have a private finance initiative and we did not feel it was good for the health and wellbeing of Kent residents," she said.

Responding to fears over patient safety caused by the delays, she said: "We are not controlling the timetable of the implementation. Why was it not done years ago?"

All four trusts are in financial deficit and all the hospitals, apart from QMS, are locked into PFI contracts, meaning downsizing their facilities would be almost impossible.

Cllr Massey said: "We acknowledge there is a need for change but we do not want to lose vital services."

John Hemming-Clark, who lives in Chislehurst, has been leading a campaign to save QMS, which stands to lose its intensive care unit, obstetrics and paediatrics in-patient departments but gain a 24-hour urgent care service. He said: "The further one has to travel in an emergency, the more likely the risk of mortality. Taking patients out of the QMS and putting them in other local hospitals will cause a strain on services."



CHANGE: Queen Mary's Hospital

However, managers at Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford, which would take on some of the extra workload, said they were confident it could cope.

The NHS said the proposals would take three years to be implemented and by then all the hospitals would be equipped to cope with the extra patients.

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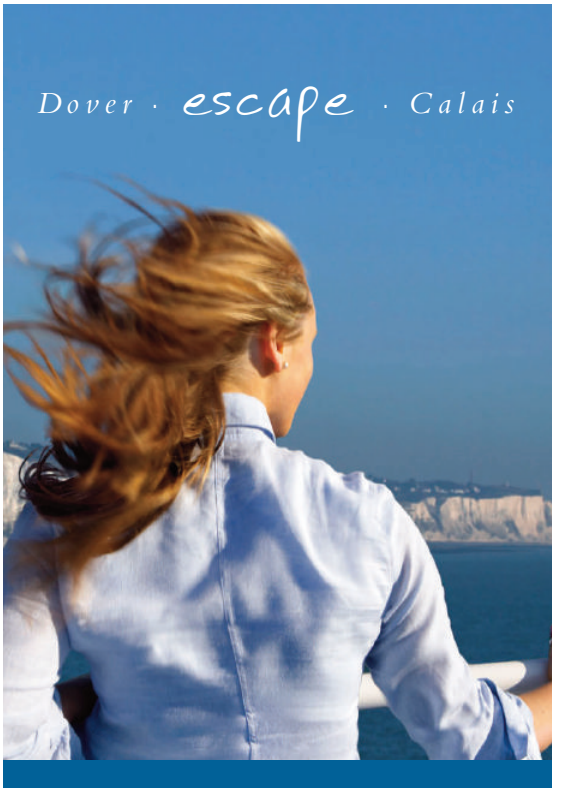
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PORTRAIT: Ceramic decorator James Giles

Dealers start bidding war over rare vases

A BIDDING war for a pair of £70 vases saw their owner make a profit of £6,730 at auction.

The collector's items, made from Worcester porcelain, date from the late 18th century and are thought to be the work of noted decorator James Giles.

Pairs of vases by Giles are rare, and this was reflected in the heavy bidding when they went under the hammer at the Canterbury Auction Galleries last week.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

Auctioneer Tony Pratt said other items from the anonymous owner's collection were also sold, but none for as much as the vases, which he bought more than 25 years ago.

He added: "Apparently it's very unusual to find a pair decorated in the manner they were. The guide price for them was between £700 and £1,000, but there was a lot of interest and they eventually sold for £6,800."

Born in 1718, Giles was also a decorator of glass who created gilt and enamelled objects such as decanters and perfume bottles.

In about 1756 he rented a workshop with a kiln in Kentish Town and a few years later started a showroom, seemingly with the support of the Worcester porcelain factory.

He built up a sizeable business selling his wares to royalty and the aristocracy, including Princess Amelia and the Duke of Northumberland, but he lacked business acumen and was declared bankrupt in 1774.

Giles took so long settling some customers' accounts that many did not pay up until after his death six years later, and only then under pressure from the creditors.

Today his work is sought avidly, although it is often difficult to identify due to the lack of any signatures or marks.

The vases sold in Canterbury were decorated with moulded flower-head finials and enamelled in colours with floral sprays within blue-lined and gilt borders. Mr Pratt said they are now the property of an unnamed international dealer.

He added: "The owner was not at the auction but one of his friends was and he was delighted. The vases attracted big competition from a number of dealers, all of whom were representing clients interested in adding them to their collection."

The auction was also notable for the large amount of bidding by private buyers and collectors. Eighty-four people registered to bid by telephone for some of the near-600 lots on offer, with calls being made from as far afield as North America, Malaysia and Australia.



RARE PAIR: The vases fetched £6,800

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Heavy fines await landlords who ignore 'green' regulations

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

'Don't run the gauntlet over energy rules'

HARD-up landlords have been warned against risking a run-in with the law by failing to obtain energy performance certificates for their properties.

The document, which lets potential tenants know how much a home will cost to heat and light, forms part of the home information pack (HIP) and will become compulsory from October 1.



WARNING: Tony Skinner

However, Erith-based domestic energy assessor Tony Skinner believes many landlords may avoid paying out for the certificates, which cost about £70 a time.

He said: "I had a landlord tell me he was really frightened because he had nearly 200 properties.

"With clients like him I would obviously offer a discount, but he said he couldn't afford the £4,000 to £5,000 bill.

"He asked what would happen if he didn't get the certificates, and I explained he would receive a £200 fine for each property.

"But I think he has decided to take that risk and is running the gauntlet with the law. It's not something I would recommend because it's definitely going to be policed.

"It's the same with car tax. Some people risk not paying for it but get found out in the end."

Trading since April under the company name Wayland, Mr Skinner visits properties before drawing up energy performance certificates for them.

He also suggests ways landlords can make homes more energy-efficient, such as by installing double glazing and loft insulation.

Mr Skinner said: "The certificates will be handy for potential buyers and tenants to see how much it is going to cost to heat and light the property, especially if they are on a budget. But they're also important in terms of making a property greener and reducing its carbon footprint."

Mr Skinner added that even though the credit crunch was hitting many people hard, he felt landlords should not be too concerned. He said: "I'm getting by because there are a couple of estate agents who use my services regularly, but the number of HIPs has definitely gone down. I'm not doing a fraction of what I used to.

"But in the current climate, where more people are renting than buying, landlords should soon see the money start rolling in."

Communities and local government spokesman Oliver Whitney-Coates said it would not be wise for people to attempt to avoid paying for energy performance certificates.

"Landlords who get caught out will have to pay a £200 fine per property, and they will also still have to pay for the certificates," he said. "It will be good for tenants to find out how green a property is before they decide whether to move in or not."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Trial run on A20 aimed at easing Stack pressure

KENT Police have approved plans to trial a temporary holding area on the A20 for freight waiting to use the Port of Dover, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The scheme is aimed at cutting congestion in Dover as well as complementing Operation Stack, which is being used intermittently as the docks cope with extra traffic as a result of the Channel Tunnel fire.

The system will be used this weekend, between the Court Wood and Aycliffe roundabouts on the coastbound stretch of the A20, on Sunday afternoon.

If successful, it will be introduced from next week whenever phase one of Operation Stack is implemented. This is when freight traffic is held between junctions 11 and 12 on the coastbound section of the M20.

Up to 400 lorries will be held on the nearside lane of the A20, with the outside lane remaining open to other traffic. A 50mph speed limit will be enforced.

Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas said: "Any traffic management causes some disruption, but we are trying to minimise the effect of peak freight demand for services to the continent. We hope queuing on the A20 will help relieve the serious congestion seen when freight is trying to get into the port.

"It should also allow us to work more closely with the ferry operators to make sure services are loaded to capacity. This particularly applies during peak freight periods."

Police hope the system will help in avoiding the use of phase two of Operation Stack, which runs between junctions 8 and 9 of the M20.

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Picking up good habits is just as important as kicking bad habits in making you feel healthier. One easy habit to pick up is to include soya in your diet and what better time than during the European wide Week of Soya? The Week of Soya is in association with ENSA, the European Natural Soyfoods Manufacturers Association, who promote soya products that are produce using whole soya beans.

Soya is fast becoming a popular choice for people as part of a healthier diet – make it a habit for you! The Chinese have been consuming soya for its nutritional benefits for many thousands of years. And choosing to include soya products in your diet has never been easier; there are a wide range of products to choose from.

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So, get a good habit during the Week of Soya and enjoy a new addition to a healthier diet.

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* The Joint Health Claims Initiative approved a claim in 2002 based on the advice of seven leading scientists. The claim states that the inclusion of at least 25g soya protein a day as part of a diet low in saturated fat can help reduce blood cholesterol levels.
Getting into good habits is important to your wellbeing. Alpro soya's 'You and Your Wellbeing' guide is a handy booklet, designed to make taking the first steps to better health and wellbeing a piece of cake! It's full of interesting hints and tips on nutrition, exercise, relationships and environment. What's more, it contains delicious and nutritious recipes and a weekly planner, to help you keep on track.



Declaration calls for equal rights

THE Green Party's MEP for Kent has helped launch a resolution demanding equal recognition of civil partnerships in European Union law.

Dr Caroline Lucas, the European representative for the South East, has co-sponsored a Written Declaration, which is similar to an Early Day Motion in the House of Commons, with four other Euro-MPs.

The politicians are urging that changes should be made in the EU Citizens Directive and Charter of Fundamental Rights to give people in same-sex partnerships equal status to heterosexual couples.

"The EU is committed to its citizens' freedom of movement and to the rights of individuals to live without discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

"Yet the current law has caused difficulties for same-sex couples who have attempted to move between European states, especially when it comes to matters such as inheritance tax.

"We need to establish a Europe-wide consensus on the issue of same-sex partnerships, in which member states recognise such unions as lawful and deserving of equal rights of movement to those in heterosexual unions," Dr Lucas said.

She said existing human rights law, asserting that everyone is born free and equal, prohibiting discrimination and interference with privacy, family and home life, means the parliament had a responsibility to ensure gay couples were treated fairly and were not discriminated against.

The resolution needs to be signed by more than half of all MEPs if it is to be passed as the parliament's official position.

Hospital future secured with £3.6m upgrade

FACILITIES at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Folkestone are to be upgraded after the signing of a £3.6 million contract.

By **NICK AMES**
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

The nurses' home will be improved and existing services such as the walk-in centre will now be protected by the investment.

Work on the hospital is set to start soon, following the deal reached by East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust and Canterbury-based Cardy Construction.

When work is completed, the Victorian part of the hospital will be sold off to save an annual cost of £1.2 million, which the trust pays in security, cleaning, rates and VAT.

A deal was signed last week by NHS Trust director of facilities Howard Jones and construction boss Michael Stannard.

A spokeswoman for the trust said: "This is very good news for the people of Folkestone.

"Not only will the nurses' accommodation be renovated, but there will be substantial upgrades in other areas as well.

"These include state-of-the-art digital X-ray equipment and a new healthcare facility with the latest in 21st-century technology.

"This development will also ensure the future of services the people of Folkestone thought they might be losing.

Walk-in

"So there will continue to be a walk-in centre which deals with minor injuries and local chemotherapy treatment for cancer patients."

Facilities at the hospital were cut back two years ago and it became more of a storage and administration facility than a medical centre.

At the time it was recognised as one of the poorest-quality properties the trust had under its control.

However, the move provoked much local opposition and residents continued to attempt to keep medical services which they considered vital within the town – rather than have to go to other towns such as Canterbury.

The trust spokeswoman added: "The things they were campaigning for have now all been realised thanks to this deal."



DEAL: Michael Stannard and Howard Jones sign the contract

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INVADERS: Does Viking blood course through your veins?

Gene map volunteers to trace blood lines

THE people of Ashford are being asked to take part in groundbreaking project that could reveal the mysteries of the country's genetic make-up, ***writes Ed Hill***.

It is all part of the People of the British Isles Project, which is being carried out by geneticists at Oxford University.

Those wishing to take part, however, have to conform to a particular family background.

All four grandparents have to have been born in the same rural parish or a locality within a 40-mile radius of each other.

This will make the volunteer a good genetic representative of the area. The project is looking to collect 3,500 blood samples from across the UK.

Tammy Day, from the project, said: "Because everyone is so much more mobile these days, it is quite rare to find people who fit the criteria we need. We need the people to come from fairly settled communities.

"Ashford is a good area because it has many established rural communities."

Kent is an important region for the study. Invading Anglo-Saxons had a big impact on the county, as did the Normans. There has long been a strong sense of local identity which has maintained communities with a distinct history.

The genetic map produced by the project will be used to help scientists understand the susceptibility of people to common diseases such as cancer or diabetes. It will also help to get a better understanding of the impact that people such as the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons had in creating our genetic make-up.

The study is anonymous. No individual DNA results will be printed and names will not be put on the samples. Volunteers will be kept informed about the progress of the research through newsletters.

The collection is at Willesborough windmill on Tuesday from 5pm-7pm, followed by a lecture about the project. Volunteers have to be aged 18 or over. To arrange an appointment and find out more, contact Ms Day on 01865 863819 from 9am to 8pm. Or visit www.peopleofthebritishisles.org.

There will also be a blood collection in Canterbury on Friday, October 10.

'Snooty' tag will rile Outraged of Tunbridge Wells

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

PUBLIC schools and polo clubs have led to Tunbridge Wells being named the second snootiest place in the UK.

Only Westminster in central London – home to Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament – was ranked by LocalLife.co.uk as being more posh.

The website looked at how many residents there were for every "upper-class" business or organisation, including yacht clubs, chauffeur companies and tailors.

Towns which rank below Tunbridge Wells on the 'top of the toffs' league table include Slough, Camden and Cambridge.

Website chairman Tony Martin said: "Tunbridge Wells fought off stiff competition to finish in second place.

"The Georgian spa town claimed some big scalps – Kensington and Chelsea not least.

"But with residents including wine expert Jilly Goolden, it's no wonder Tunbridge Wells is part of the upper crust."

According to LocalLife, there are 2,255 residents per upper-class business in Tunbridge Wells.

Westminster has 1,162, while third-placed Slough has 2,269. Each town is ranked relative to population size.

Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark said he was "very surprised" to see his constituency placed so highly. He added: "From my experience of the town I would say it is much more down-to-earth than its reputation suggests.

"It's a delightful place and has many things going for it, but it's not impossibly grand. Its friendliness is one of its many charms. It's not as if all you see driving past are Rolls-Royces."

According to LocalLife, seven of the towns in its top 10 – including Tunbridge Wells – also feature in the top 25 local authorities for average gross weekly earnings.

The 2007 survey of hours and earnings, carried out by the Office for National Statistics, says a typical Tunbridge Wells resident earns £606 a week.

Meanwhile, Barrow-in-Furness in Cumbria is ranked as the most working-class town in the UK due to its high number of chip shops, working men's clubs, trade unions, bookmakers and dog tracks.

Crewe, Doncaster and Manchester also feature in the list, which does not include any Kent towns. Last month MoveMe.com ranked Tunbridge Wells the most popular destination for householders, many of whom are moving from London.

However, earlier this month the Ministry of Justice revealed the town had experienced a 22 per cent rise in repossession orders. Experts blamed the increase on the high cost of properties in the town, leading to some buyers borrowing more than they could afford to repay.

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CLASSY: The Pantiles adds to the many charms of Royal Tunbridge Wells

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Kent County Council



The teams at Kent Highway Services carry out a huge variety of tasks to keep Kent moving, but many people don't realise just what it is that we do on a daily basis. For example, did you know that an Inspector with the tree team could find themselves checking for bats before work is carried out, and a member of the drainage crew could find themselves using CCTV to investigate a problem?

Judith Bilboe is the Assistant Contracts Manager for Ringway, one of the partners that make up Kent Highway Services, and there's no such thing as an average day for her:

What's the purpose of your role?
My job is to oversee the planning and construction of highway improvement schemes, to make sure that they're running smoothly and deal with any problems that may arise.

How does your working day normally begin?
Ensuring that all planned activities are underway and that the crews are aware of their duties for the day.

What does an average day normally entail?
Every day is slightly different because of the nature of my work, but I do usually have an update each morning with the site teams. The update is important so I can deal with any issues that may have arisen from the previous day. It also gives me the chance to make sure that works are progressing to schedule and identify any potential delays before they happen.
I carry out a number of site visits during the week to make sure that schemes are being carried out to the programme and that the crews are working safely, as well as considering the safety of the public.

What's the worst aspect of your job?
It's definitely has to be carrying out site visits in the wind and the rain!

What's the most rewarding aspect of your job?
I really enjoy working as part of a team to produce good quality improvement schemes on time and within budget.

Can you give any examples of the challenges you face?
Not knowing what each day is going to throw at me is a challenge itself! Despite careful planning, there will always be unforeseen challenges with construction such as discovering an unlisted service pipe that we hadn't planned for, or voids in the ground structure when we start excavating. Sometimes designs don't quite work when they're actually being put into practice and we have to adapt our plans to make sure that the best possible solution is used.

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

Ask the right questions and save yourself a skip full of trouble

Most of us will need to hire a skip at some point in our lives, whether it's for a spring-clean, building waste or after a garden clear-out.

It sounds like a simple process and if you've already hired a skip, you hopefully had a good experience with a professional, licensed waste collector.

Unfortunately, that isn't always the case and with so many companies out there, it's difficult to choose the right one.

So what do you need to know? As a starting point, you should make sure that you call more than one company for a quote – a good company should give you a full quote over the phone, tell you what time it will be dropped off and collected and they won't insist on cash payment to the driver.

You also need to know that skips are regulated by the Highways Act 1980 to protect the safety of all highway users. Skip suppliers are responsible for obtaining a permit to place a skip on the highway, but, as the customer, you should always check that they have the necessary permit before they deliver the skip. If it's placed on the highway, the skip must be clearly and indelibly marked with the owner's name and telephone number. All skips require at least three traffic cones on the approaching side to guide traffic past and during the hours of darkness, in poor daytime visibility or bad weather, flashing amber road lamps must be placed at each corner. If your local council is called out to make a skip safe with lamps, the charge will end up coming your way!



Skips on the highway can't contain any flammable or explosive materials and the contents need to be covered or damped down to prevent anything spilling onto the highway.

You can find out more from our website at **www.kent.gov.uk/highways** but asking a few careful questions will make sure that your skip experience is a good one.



Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

Thanet

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
Current	10.10.08	Manstone Road, Ramsgate	Road closure – gas mains works
Current	27.2.09	A256 between Richborough Power Station and Cliffs End	Temporary traffic lights – cable laying

Sevenoaks

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
29.9.08	14.10.08	London road, Shoreham	Temporary traffic lights – energy supply works
5.10.08	5.10.08	Penshurst Road, Chiddingstone	Road closure – railway bridge inspection

Tonbridge & Malling

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
30.09.08	1.10.08	Temple Way, East Malling	Road closure – resurfacing works

Tunbridge Wells

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
30.09.08	6.10.08	Vale Road, Tunbridge Wells	Temporay traffic lights – gas main works

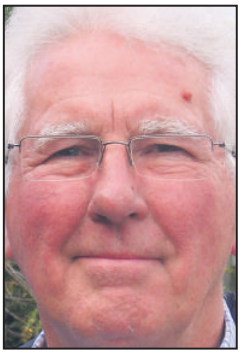
For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Taking on a grave mission

Errors found on wartime memorial to tragic couple

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk





WRITING WRONGS: John Franklin wants mistakes about the Lawrences to be corrected

MISTAKES on war graves belonging to a tragic young couple from Bearsted sparked one man's quest for answers that continues to this day.

George and Pamela Lawrence (née Thorpe) had been married just five months when the latter, who was a senior cipher clerk in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, died in a plane crash in January 1943.

Her husband was killed in similar circumstances just over a year later.

The couple are remembered in the form of graves and on a war memorial at Holy Cross Church, Bearsted, although Mr Lawrence's age is a year out and his wife's date of death is also incorrect.

Gravesend resident John Franklin, 69, stumbled across the mistakes during a visit to the graveyard four years ago and made it his mission to have them corrected.

He said: "It's become something of an obsession for me. I just woke up one morning and decided something had to be done about it.

Sacrifice

"Their story is quite a sad one as they got married, went off to war and both died not long after.

"I think for what they did for our country they deserve to be remembered under the correct information."

Mrs Lawrence's gravestone lists her date of death as January 10, 1943, even though the war memorial nearby reads January 16.

Mr Franklin believes the explanation may be as simple as scruffy handwriting on the headstone instructions, with poor arithmetic possibly to blame for Mr Lawrence's age not matching up with the dates of his birth and death.

He was 28 when the plane he was travelling in went missing over the Bay of Bengal, but the grave says he was 27.

Mr Franklin said: "It just struck me that the least that could be done, given their ultimate sacrifice, was to correct this erroneous information.

"In this the church has been fully supportive. But while they have corrected their own records and the proper details have been recorded by the village historian, the church is unable to make any physical changes to the gravestones without approval from a member of the family." Mr Franklin has gathered many documents in his quest for information and thought he had struck gold when he managed to find a 1984 address for Mr Lawrence's nephew Mark.

However, upon visiting the address in Woking, Surrey, Mr Franklin was disappointed to learn the man he was looking for had moved by 1990.

He said: "I would be delighted if I can find some relatives of the couple.

"If I do manage to track any down and they tell me they're not interested, then that would be fine. At least I'll have tried."

According to a newspaper article reporting Mrs Lawrence's funeral, all those who worked at her family's shoe shop in Maidstone High Street were in attendance.

The Thorpes were well known and liked throughout the town, and were regularly involved in the running and organisation of public events.

If you can help Mr Franklin track down any member of the Lawrence or Thorpe families, call him on 01474 832083 or email john_e_franklin@hotmail.com.

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RSPCA staff rescued a fallow deer stag which had become entangled by its antlers.

Inspectors freed the distressed but otherwise uninjured animal after its antlers became snagged in rope attached to a fence in a field behind Surrenden Lake at Bethersden, near Ashford.

A spokesman said: "This goes to show the importance of people clearing up their rubbish. Animals can easily become trapped."

Kent Highway Services

For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to page **16**.

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page **73**.

Little cutie adds to zoo park troop

A BABY black-and-white colobus monkey has joined the 28-strong troop at a Kent animal park.

The primates are born white in colour but soon develop their beautiful monotone coats, which still make them a target for hunters in the wild.

Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Ashford, has two sub-species of the monkey, which are kept as separate breeding units.

Simon Jeffery, head of primates, said: "In the past decade we have had more than 40 births of colobus monkeys, with 23 arrivals in the last six years.

"This many births reflect a happy troop of monkeys and the fact that we are on the right track with our breeding and conservation programme."

Western and central Africa – from Cameroon across to Uganda – is the colobus monkeys natural habitat.

The name comes from a Greek word meaning 'mutilated', which refers to the fact the species have very short thumbs or none at all.

Mr Jeffery said this was probably an adaptation to help with eating habits and stripping foliage.

He said the main threat to the species, apart from loss of habitat through deforestation, was hunting for their spectacular pelts, which are still traded in large numbers.



NEW ARRIVAL: Mum and baby

Gateway to unity

By **TOM SHELDRICK**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PLANS to transform the Thames Gateway into a thriving economic centre have taken a big step forward with the launch of an ambitious plan.

The Economic Development Investment Plan was unveiled by the South East's three regional development agencies – including the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), which is leading the redevelopment of the Thames Gateway's Kent sector.

The joint commitment, which also includes the London Development Agency (LDA), the East England Development Agency and the Department of Communities and Local Government, may ward off criticism that the project will be hindered by the lack of a single leading developer.

A report by the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee had warned that "it will remain a series of disjointed projects and is unlikely to achieve its full potential".

Rachel Clark, of the LDA, said: "This is the first time there has been a coherent investment plan for the whole of the Thames Gateway by all three agencies."

The agencies also moved to allay fears that the credit crunch and economic downturn will mean private developers won't build the promised houses. Ms Clark said: "It's a long-term plan – 10, 15, 20 years ahead – and we can't guess the market conditions then."

A Department of Communities and Local Government official said: "We've set these targets and will stand by them."

Ebbsfleet Valley, between Gravesend and Dartford, has been identified as one of four key development zones. The commercial centre will focus around Ebbsfleet International station, which will provide high-speed rail links to London and continental Europe.

Of the 225,000 jobs and 160,000 homes planned in the gateway as a whole, 10,000 jobs and 20,000 homes are earmarked for Ebbsfleet Valley.

Efforts are being made to manage the environmental impact of the project, which is the single largest regeneration in north-west Europe.

The Thames Gateway Institute for Sustainability aims to make the area the UK's first eco-region. A research and development centre in Dartford will concentrate on low-impact buildings and low-impact communities.

Housing Minister Caroline Flint said: "It demonstrates how economic growth and environmental sustainability can work together."

A design pact has been drawn up by the Government's architectural advisor to ensure everyone involved sticks to standards of sustainability.

The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) will launch the pact in November.

CABE chief executive Richard Simmons said: "Government backing, and a commitment by all those signing it, will make this the strongest set of design standards yet for regeneration on this scale."

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Great Tower at castle set for a £5m makeover

Investment to transform keep

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AFTER the brutal murder of Thomas Becket in 1170 and his swift canonisation a few years later, thousands of pilgrims flocked to his shrine in Canterbury Cathedral from Europe.

The king, Henry II, built a grand palace nearby at Dover Castle to accommodate the royal families, emperors and other high-ranking and prestigious worshippers who visited the tomb of the martyred archbishop.

English Heritage is now set to transform the castle's Great Tower, which is one of the largest and most elaborate keeps ever constructed, to evoke its grandeur and opulence in the 1180s as part of a £5 million investment programme at the site.

Paul Pattison, senior historian for the organisation, said: "It sits on the edge of England.

"Henry also had massive amounts of property on the Continent, he himself was from Anjou, which was then a separate state but is now in France.

"It was huge – almost an empire. The castle was an emblem of royal power, visible to all who visited."

He explained that as people began to arrive in droves at Dover from the Continent to visit the shrine, the king also built the Great Tower out of embarrassment that there was nowhere for his fellow monarchs and their entourages to stay.

"It was made into suites of palatial accommodation," Mr Pattison added.

Miracles

Tracey Wahdan, visitor operations director for the South East, compared the 12th century pilgrimage of the faithful to the annual Hajj to Mecca the home of the Kaaba shrine, which is the most holy place in Islam.

"Just after he was murdered there were lots of reports about miracles happening at his tomb," she said.

"A huge amount of people came and Henry wanted to capitalise on that and make sure he treated the kings and queens with the utmost respect.

"It [the castle] is thought of as just a medieval fortress but as we researched it we realised it was a great palace."

Henry II, who history has firmly linked with Becket's death, was once a close friend of the archbishop before power struggles between the Church and state tore them apart.

"There was a political element to it. A lot of people thought he was to blame for the archbishop's death but Becket was also his best friend and they had a close relationship so he wanted to capitalise on that and may have been trying to turn it to his advantage," Ms Wahdan said.



RENOVATION: Dover Castle's Great Tower (above) and artist's impressions of the King's Chamber (below left) and King's Hall below right)

Dover Castle already attracts more than 300,000 visitors a year, making it the second most popular of English Heritage's sites after Stonehenge.

However, a recent decline in visitor numbers has prompted a revamp of the site.

English Heritage has brought in a wealth of specialists including historians, a 20-strong team of researchers, craftspeople, artists and conservation experts to recreate the court of Henry II and transform the interiors of the three-floor tower.

Visitors to the castle from next August will be able to see the King's Hall, which contained his throne, the King's Chamber where he would have slept, the Great Hall where Henry and his entourage would have eaten and the Guest Chamber, which important guests would have slept in.

Ms Wahdan explained why the current exhibition on Henry VIII was being replaced, she said: "I suppose because a lot of people 'do' Henry VIII and the exhibition is quite tired now and he made quite a short visit to Dover.

"But Henry II was like the Roman emperor – he was hugely powerful, owning most of France and all of England.

"He was the leader of a great dynasty. There are no other castles that will actually show that period of sumptuous wall hangings and beautifully carved furniture."

English Heritage even plans to recreate the smells of the medieval palace with cooking in the kitchens and the lighting will be made authentic through huge open burning fires.

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Wild boars out of control

Contraceptive jab to curb growing numbers

By TOM SHELDRICK
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE UK's largest population of wild boar, on the border between Kent and East Sussex, may be under threat.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has commissioned the testing of contraceptive injections on a smaller wild boar population in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, as a "more humane" way to curb growing numbers.

Although a Defra spokeswoman wouldn't confirm the infertility vaccines were to be applied to the Kent population, estimated at 200 wild boar, the trial is testing whether the animals experience any side-effects to the injections, with the intention of widening their usage to other wild animals and other regions of the UK.

Defra's Linda Scott said: "It's not just about wild boar, but potentially other wild animals too. But it's not about getting rid of the population."

However, a 2005 Defra report contained "eradication of the existing populations is still considered feasible".

Attacks

Peter Smith, chief executive of conservation centre the Wildwood Trust, near Canterbury, said: "I fear this control by immuno-vaccine – people don't want wild boar in the UK."

Popular distrust of the animals has spread due to reports of attacks on humans and livestock, as well as damage done to farm fences and crops. Farmers also accuse them of spreading diseases such as classical swine fever to domestic pigs.

Male wild boars can reach a height of up to 40 inches at the shoulder and weigh up to 350 pounds. Males are also armed with razor-sharp tusks.

However, Mr Smith said: "Wild boar are not dangerous to human beings – they are shy and retiring. The amount of damage they do cause is tiny."

An early onset of sexual maturity, the potential to breed more than once a yearand the ability to have large litters of up to 12 makes them highly-productive animals.

Without controlling methods, the UK population is predicted to rise as the amimals have no natural predators here.

Wildwood Trust is campaigning for wild boar's status to be protected. Presently they are included under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 and farmers are able to shoot them dead with no fear of punishment.

Mrs Scott said: "It's up to the local community to decide – local farmers are perfectly entitled to take any means to control them."

The animals became extinct in the UK in the 17th century. It is popularly believed that they re-appeared in the wild after escaping from farms during the 1987 storm.

However, Mr Smith said: "Wild boar have been roaming since the 1960s. They are a native British species and essential for woodland growth and diversity."

Debate also rages about whether they are an economic resource or a dangerous pest in continental Europe. Some 200,000 are killed each year in managed hunting forests in Germany, while France is the leading wild boar farmer in Europe, the meat considered an expensive delicacy.

Defra launched the trial, with testing carried out by the Central Science Laboratory, in 2006. The drug being used, Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone (GnRH), is known to be effective in making the boar infertile – its side effects are the subject of the trial.

The trial is to be extended for a further three years before any decision over widening the immuno-contraception programme is taken.



TRIAL: Defra has commissioned use of an injection to stem wild boar reproduction

Wild boar have been identified as living in a 20-mile area in the South East, from Udimore in East Sussex to Lympne in Kent.

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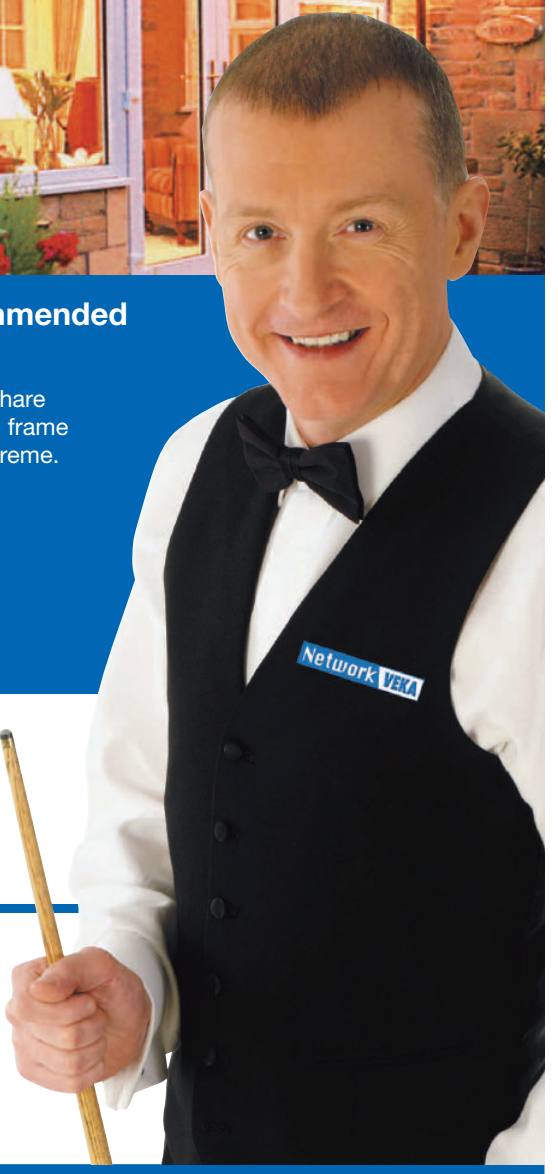
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PIPER
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Police bike goes under cover

Unmarked motorcycle used to catch out dangerous road users



VIDEO: An unmarked police motorcycle is being used to catch speeding drivers Picture: NOT ACTUAL BIKE

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN UNMARKED police motorcycle is proving to be a valuable weapon in the fight against speeding drivers in Kent.

The vehicle helped secure the convictions of 84 motorists in the first 18 months following its introduction, equating to a near perfect success rate.

Good quality video footage recorded from the bike meant many of those arrested for offences including speeding and dangerous and careless driving had little choice but to admit their crimes.

The statistics surely delighted Kent Chief Constable Mike Fuller, who told Kent on Sunday two weeks ago how he was an enthusiast for technology that can help his officers reduce crime.

Head of roads policing Chief Insp Roscoe Walford was also pleased with the near-100 per cent conviction rate.

He said: "I would like to think the use of the unmarked bike contributed to that great result.

"In the meantime, I would warn motorists to think about the consequences of being caught committing an offence.

"At best you risk a fine, ban or an increase in insurance premiums. At worst you risk a criminal record, losing your job or jail.."

Of the 84 motorists caught, five were reported for dangerous driving, 11 for careless driving and 68 for speeding.

Thirty-one of those 68 were motorcyclists later referred to the Rider Intervention Developing Experience (RIDE) scheme, which seeks to address why some bikers feel the need to travel at excessive speeds.

CI Walford urged motorists to consider their wellbeing and that of others, pointing out that about two people are killed on Kent's roads every week.

He added: "Think about the consequences to yourself and your family of being involved in a serious collision. You could end up in a wheelchair, killing yourself or someone else.

"We regularly see the consequences of speeding and the lives that are wrecked as a result.

"The message is simple – you have nothing to fear if you ride and drive within the law, but you have plenty to be afraid of if you break it.

"As the video from the unmarked bike proves, you will be caught and the courts will deal with you."

Included on the list of convicted motorists is a 46-year-old man handed three penalty points and a £60 fine for reaching speeds of up to 90mph along a country lane in Mereworth, near Maidstone.

A 47-year-old motorcyclist received a two-week ban and a £465 fine for riding at 80mph in a 40mph limit, in Swanscombe.

The success of the unmarked bike in catching offenders such as these has convinced Kent Police to look into buying another.







SPECIAL REPORT Building industry gathers for KOS Media's Construction Expo 08



CRAFTSMAN: Visitors were able to watch and learn as skilled tradesmen gave demonstrations of their work at the exhibition

Exhibitors vow to come back after success of second Construction Expo

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

CHATHAM'S Old Dockyard became a hive of activity and buzz during Construction Expo 2008.

There was not just a clutch of high-level speakers – experts in their fields – and more than 100 stands and around 2,000 delegates, but also good refreshment facilities.

Not one visitor spoken to by KOS Media gave a negative comment and there was a lot of positive feedback and praise for the organisers by exhibitors. Footfall varied during the day – as with all expos – but no areas were quiet.

Visitors said they appreciated seeing youngsters and craftsmen physically working in cordoned-off areas, carrying out activities such as bricklaying and woodwork, within the lines of stands, and the stands themselves were well spaced-out over a large area.

This was the expo's second year – and it was such a success that exhibitor after exhibitor said they'll be back next year. Exhibitors came from a whole range of backgrounds – even mainstream conservation groups, such as the RSPB and Campaign to Protect Rural England, were there.

Insightful

Glenys Gilbert-Collins, project manager of the North Kent Construction Skills Project, and a main organiser, said: "I think we have had a tremendous conference programme, with a very good group of speakers who have been very insightful, thought provoking and challenging. They really gave us something to think about.

"I think it's fantastic that companies are here not just talking about what they do, but showing us what they do – that's been a tremendous thing about this expo which marks it out from other expos, and very I'm very proud of that."

Dr Hilary Newport, director of Kent branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, said: "We're glad to be here – it's not the normal sort of forum at which we normally exhibit, but it great to get a chance to talk to developers and talk with them through some very, very simple and sensible solutions for delivering the kind of development that we know that we need.

"The kind of development that's going to do Kent good rather than damage it. It's well worthwhile and we'll certainly be here next year."

Mike Read, regional sales manager of PPG Architectural Coatings EMEA, was manning the North West Kent College stand. He said: "It's our first time at the exo, in working partnership with the college, helping the young students along today and reinforcing their knowledge – they are going to be our customers in the future so we're very keen to work with them.

"We have had a lot of interest – genuine interest – it's great to be here and I'm sure we'll be here next year."



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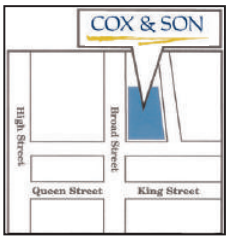
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BUILDING DREAMS: Wayne Hemingway spoke passionately about building sustainable homes in which families can thrive and launched a stinging attack on the Thames Gateway. To see his speech, visit our website Yourkentv.co.uk and search for 'Wayne'

CONTROVERSIAL designer and business guru Wayne Hemingway this week praised some new Kent developments, but lashed out at others as being "absolutely foul".

The dynamo who launched the Red or Dead designer fashion label gave the thumbs up to housing developments on Kings Hill, The Bridge at Dartford, and St Mary's Island in Medway.

But some other housing developments in the massive Thames Gateway area got a tongue lashing when he spoke to an audience at KOS Media's Construction Expo 2008 at Chatham Historic Dockyard.

Showing a picture of a housing development in the area he said: "This is absolutely foul place-making – places I don't think anybody in here would choose to live or bring up their family because they are pretty depressing places.

"You just wonder what the hell are we doing? Does anyone aspire to this? Then why the bloody hell are we building it?

"This has all been built in the last five years in this thing called the Thames Gateway, just look at it – it is unbelievable."

Earlier, he said: "It is very important to celebrate the local – this government has failed to so far and it is down to the councils to start doing that."

Mr Hemingway said: "Sustainability in anywhere where we build is about happiness. If people are happy then they inherently become sustainable."

Showing a picture of a local housing development, he said: "At the best it will last 30 years, at the worst it might come down in 20 years.

"It will certainly need re-bloody-generation money going at it at some stage because anyone with aspiration or any joy about the good things in life will not want to live there."

He added: "In a way I'm pleased about the current slowdown because it will give us a chance to re-evaluate this rush to buy-to-let and maybe start re-evaluating why we are building development and build houses for people to live in, not to invest in."

He said The Bridge development, with which he had links, had attracted people who could be called pioneers, and it had a great transport network, the Fastrack bus system. But he attacked the lack of good play areas elsewhere, especially Ashford.

Using an image of young men who might seem threatening to some, he said: "Can you blame hem when we lock them into this kind of crap housing development? Five springy chickens in a play area for them to play on – there's a simple equation, five springy chickens equals 10 chavs to the power of two."

He told KOS Media afterward: "Demand more in development, it's not about numbers, it's about quality. Planners have to have more resources, there's a shortage of skills.

"I am not saying that all the housing in the Thames Gateway is crap, we have got to look at the good stuff.

"Kings Hill, The Bridge and St Mary's Island are places which can set the standard but there are far too many large and small that don't come up those standards."

More than 100 exhibitors were at the event that brought together some of the country's best developers, planners, training providers and more for a day of information, idea-sharing and demonstrations. There were a range of other expert speakers.

The event was organised by KOS Media in conjunction with the North Kent Construction Skills Project (NoKCS) with a host of sponsors, such as Medway Council.



Aran Brooks, director of MKA Projects, of Kings Hill, said: "It's our first time here and it's well worthwhile, we have had a lot of footfall across the stands and good leads as well.

"We're very pleased to be here. I came along last year to see if it was worth our while coming along, and definitely we will be back next year. Liz Hare [organiser at the KOS Media end] has been fantastic."

Paul Stannard, KOS Media managing director, said after the expo: "I would like to give a big thank you to everyone involved. It was a great show and a tremendous success. Everyone deserves congratulations."

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PCSOs praised for saving life of bridge man

THREE police community support officers have been praised after they saved a man's life as he fell from a bridge over a busy main road.

The 28-year-old was sitting on the railings above the A2 at Canterbury when members of the public alerted two nearby PCSOs, Trevor Ingram and Sam Milton.

As they rushed to the bridge they were joined by fellow community officer Paul Rigden, police said.

But as they began talking to the "distressed" man, he toppled backwards and the PCSOs grabbed hold of his legs to stop him falling.

Mr Rigden said: "His rucksack fell off his back and down onto the road but we held onto his legs.

"However, because of the angle we were at we could not pull him back up until we were helped by officers who had arrived at the scene."

Police stopped the traffic on the dual carriageway during the incident last Friday at around 6.30pm after they were alerted by the PCSOs.

Chief Inspector Mark Harrison said: "I am sure that their timely intervention saved this man's life and I have nothing but praise for their level-headedness and swift action.

"This was a traumatic incident that could have ended very differently had it not been for what they did.

"All three were advised that they could retire from duty that day and go home and it is further credit to them that they chose to stay at work."

The man, who is from Canterbury, was detained under the Mental Health Act and taken to the city's St Martin's Hospital.

Author's quest for history

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A FRESH approach to history is needed if humanity is to work together to tackle challenges such as climate change and population growth, a Kent author has argued.

Christopher Lloyd, who lives near Sevenoaks, is set to launch his new book called What on Earth Happened? The Complete Story of the Planet, Life and People from the Big Bang to the Present Day.

He said: "I thought 'what book is it that I would most like my kids to read and read to my kids?'

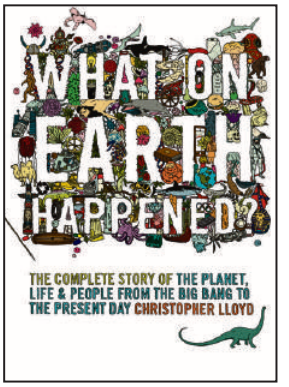
"I came up with a book that could take us through the story of the past in one volume, illustrated, but essentially as a narrative.

"So much history is served up as topics out of chronological context so that kids go from the Romans to the World War Two and then to the Normans," he said.

The idea for the book sprang out of his experience of educating his two daughters at home.

Mr Lloyd said he was inspired when the family took off for four months in a camper van around Europe for what he described as a 'grand tour', taking in Spain, Italy, France and Austria.

The former Sunday Times journalist, who had been working as chief executive of an education software publishing company in Oxford before the trip, was in Rome when he decided to he wanted to go back to writing.





DAYS IN HISTORY: Christoper Lloyd says he wrote a book (left) he would want his two daughters to read

"It seemed to me during the trip that we were absorbed in the countryside as much as in the culture, but history in its traditional sense is only about people, which is missing a trick," he said.

The book begins 13.7 billion years ago when Earth was born and is in four parts – Mother Nature, the origins of the universe and life on Earth before mankind; Homo Sapiens, the evolution of humans within the natural world; Settling In, the development of a range of different human civilisations; and Going Global, the "fusion of those civilizations and the natural world into a global whole".

Mr Lloyd believes that focusing history on only people reinforces "historical notions of human supremacy", which underpins mankind's relentless exploitation of the Earth's resources regardless of the costs and future consequences.

He said in the future a different approach is needed in which natural history is as much to do with the subject as people because we need to understand the resources and other species we depend on.

The author, who read history at Cambridge University, spent more than a year writing the first draft of the 180,000 word accessible epic.

He researched the material in museums, from the Natural History Museum to Kew Gardens, libraries, the internet, which he said made a huge difference making finding articles and books much quicker, and historians and scientists he got in touch with through his work.

To prove his point that history has been splintered into topics and chopped up by governments through national curriculums, Mr Lloyd has put a five-minute history quiz on the book's website.

More than 2,000 people have taken the challenge so far, which donates £1-a-go to Friends of the Earth and the Resurgence Trust.

The survey found 78 per cent of people did not know when life on Earth began, 60 per cent did not know which civilisation built five of the seven wonders of the world and 74 per cent did not know which country passed the world's first Bill of Rights.

Mr Lloyd added: "I'm making this donation is to try to help make the critical connection between the history of the planet, life and people and our collective future.

"If we are to have a global perspective on the future, we must have a global perspective on history and not just think that all that matters is the story of man."

Go to website www.whatonearthhappened.com to take the quiz and find out more about the book and its author.

The book is being officially launched on October 7, at the Royal Institution in London.

It is published by Bloomsbury, costs £25 and is available in all good book shops including Waterstone's, Borders and WHSmiths.

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Black footballer's story made for TV

Drama tells tale of Spurs and WWI hero Walter

By NICK AMES
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE life of army hero Walter Tull – the first black officer to lead British troops during World War One – is to be turned into a TV drama.

Written by award-winning playwright Kwame Kwei-Armah Walter's War will form the centrepiece of a series of programmes based around the 90th anniversary of the end of the conflict.

The show will focus on the horrors of combat – as well as the prejudice which existed in some areas towards his Barbadian background.

It will be shown on Remembrance Day – November 11 – and star Olantude 'OT' Fagbenle in the title role.

The actor has also appeared in Dr Who and the film Breaking and Entering with Jude Law and Juliette Binoche.

TV and stage performer Dugald Bruce-Lockhart – nephew of former Kent County Council leader Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart – also has a part in the production.

The director is Alrick Riley whose credits include Spooks and Hotel Babylon.

Mr Tull, who was born in Folkestone and also lived in Dover, was the first black outfield player to perform in top-class football, as well as being a soldier.

He was actually the grandson of a slave who worked on Caribbean sugar plantations.

But fighting the prevalent attitudes of the day, Mr Tull played for Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town before volunteering for the British Army.

He died in 1918 during a battle on the Western Front and despite efforts by his troops to bring his body back, it was never recovered.

His football career took off in 1909 when he signed as a professional for Spurs and he experienced for the first time spectator racism when his team travelled to play Bristol City.

According to one writer, "a section of the spectators made a cowardly attack on him in language lower than Billingsgate".

The article continued: "Let me tell those Bristol hooligans that Tull is so clean in mind and method as to be a model for all white men who play football whether they be amateur or professional. In point of ability, if not actual achievement, Tull was the best forward on the field."

In October, 1911, Mr Tull moved to Northampton Town before joining the British Army.

Despite military regulations forbidding "any negro or person of colour" being an officer, he received his commission in May, 1917.

On March 25, 1918, 2nd Lieutenant Tull was ordered to lead his men on an attack on the German trenches at Favreuil.



PIONEER: Walter Tull was the first top-class outfield black footballer in the UK. He was killed in battle during WWI

Soon after entering No Man's Land he was hit by a German bullet. But the former footballer was such a popular officer that several of his men made valiant efforts under heavy fire from German machine-guns to bring him back to the British trenches. He was 29 years old.

Since his story was rediscovered during investigations into the history of those commemorated on Dover War Memorial Mr Tull has been hailed as a pioneer of multi-culturalism.

Mr Kwei-Armah said: "I want to give a voice to a forgotten hero – to help present the achievements of this great man to a new generation makes this project one of the most important I have worked on to date."

The film will be based on what producers BBC4 are calling an "imagined period" of Mr Tull's life.

It will show him at the battlefront and recuperating from trench fever prior to undergoing officer training.

BBC head of drama Kate Harwood said: "Kwame has written a powerful drama – Walter's War is a bold and moving piece of storytelling."

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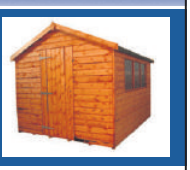


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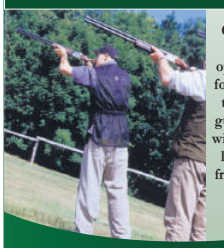
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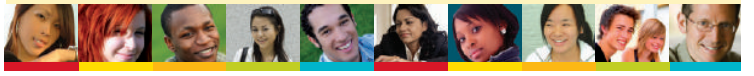
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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

There is no excuse for police rudeness

CLAIMS of policemen and women in Kent being rude made up nearly half of all complaints against the county's force during 2007-08.

As the old adage says, 'manners don't cost a thing', and it is unacceptable and unprofessional if officers are not treating everyone they deal with in a civil and respectful manner.

Whether addressing antisocial behaviour of troublesome teenagers or the drunken, loutish actions of some in town centres at the weekend, there can be no excuse for police rudeness. Otherwise they sink to the level of those they are dealing with.

Officers should be setting an example and incidences of bad behaviour seriously harm the force's relationship with the public. Kent Police came under fire this summer for use of heavy-handed tactics during the Climate Camp for Action at Kingsnorth.

Politicians and environmentalists criticised their 'excessive use of force' and claimed officers had tried to intimidate peaceful campaigners.

This week, it was announced the county's constabulary is set to pay thousands of pounds worth of compensation to animal rights campaigners who were protesting over live exports from Dover in 2006.

Proof perhaps that rudeness, or in this case, denying people the right to peaceful protest, does cost – a lot.

The force saw the fifth largest increase in complaints in England and Wales over the past year. If this is because people are finding it easier to access the complaints process and have more faith in the system in Kent then that is to be welcomed.

But the rise cannot be explained by that alone and the force needs to act on the findings to bring the number of complaints down.

OPINION: Spirit of the age



Ageing population gives opportunity for better care says KCC's new adult social services cabinet member, Cllr GRAHAM GIBBENS

MY NEW role at Kent County Council as cabinet member for adult social services has brought feelings of both excitement and challenge.

I see this new responsibility as a massive opportunity to really contribute to making a difference for older and vulnerable people across Kent.

As many people are aware, we are facing real changes as the baby-boomers of the 1940s and 1950s move towards retirement and we see an increasing number of older people.

This is reflected in Kent as much as anywhere else. According to a population estimate from mid-2007, there are now more over-65s in Kent than under-15s – and the gap is expected to widen.

Growing

A third of Kent's population is over 65 and with advances in medicine, the ageing population is expected to keep growing. It is estimated that from 2006 to 2026, Kent's population aged 85 and over will increase by 71 per cent, while the population as a whole will grow by only eight per cent.

This is, of course, a cause for celebration and an opportunity, but we also need to make sure the resources we have are used as effectively as possible.

For me, that means working with partners in the health, independent and voluntary sectors to give the best service we can – and to improve the quality of life for those who most need our support. The whole focus of adult social care in England is going through a major change. The Government recently launched a debate about how care is to be organised and paid for in the future, along with a drive for a more personal way of delivering services. I believe one of my key roles is to challenge what we do and find out how we can be more effective. I am pleased to be part of an organisation that is always looking at ways to innovate, especially when the focus is on giving people more choice and control.

I have been impressed by two practical ways in which social care is being transformed in Kent. We have pioneered the use of new technology, such as Telehealth, which has given people the chance to manage their own conditions at home and send the results down the phone line to a health professional, cutting out visits to GP surgeries and hospitals. As important in personalising services is direct payments, which have now been taken up by more than 1,600 people. Through this system, people receive a cash payment for the cost of the care they receive from social services in the community. Some use this to employ their own personal assistant, or on their own choice of activities, or on support to help them live independently.

This is all part of looking at what customers want – taking a lead more and more from what the individual would like to get out of day-to-day life.

Uncertain

Some people are looking for a greater range of services and improvements that meet their expectations, but I am also aware that others are uncertain about changes. There is a challenge here to show that new opportunities can deliver a fuller life experience.

A big and important part of my job is communication – making it clear that at the heart of adult social services there is a continued striving to make things better, something shown by Kent adult social services gaining a top, three-star performance rating for the last five years.

I have to look at a bigger picture as well. Many of the challenges we face are shared by other councils across the country and, from a political point of view, an important part of my role is challenging and lobbying central government to make sure the right level of provision is coming – particularly for the care of older people, the vulnerable and those with learning disabilities.

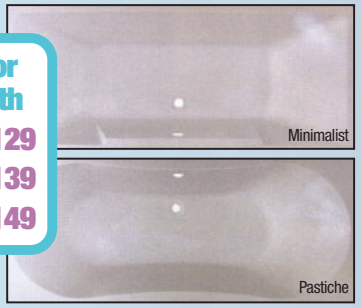
Having the right resources means we can offer the right support so people can stay independent and active.

I am looking forward to being part of the way Kent adult social services moves forward and to being part of a team that always strives to make life better.

I hope that by giving people control of their own care and making independence a priority, we can see quality of life improve and make Kent a fantastic place for people to live – whatever their circumstances.

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Airport idea is madness

The news that London's Mayor Boris Johnson has further backed the idea of a major new airport for the UK in the Thames Estuary will, I hope, be greeted with massive public opposition whether locally, nationally, and indeed internationally. Further, I'm sure most will agree with Kent County Council's leader Paul Carter, who described the idea as "madness".

The business case is, in my view, nothing more than more jam today, damn tomorrow; with its proponants seemingly believing we can continue to get away with a bit more 'me-now' convenience, and our little bit won't make much difference.

Yes, some jobs might increase in the area, but be lost as well as people move away from the noise and pollution or fail to visit as tourists due to the same.

The fact is that with climate change beginning to accelerate as, for instance, the very latest reports about melting of the polar ice caps show, and the resulting risk of the release of highly dangerous methane, it is now well past the time when much greater efforts are needed to change the way our societies operate and how people travel anyway.

Thus the far greater need to tackle global warming means any further airport expansions/developments in the UK; and locally at Lydd or Manston; must be stopped now.

Indeed the mid-week news of the resignation of Zaher Deir, former MD of Lydd airport on Romney Marsh – and I wish him well in whatever, hopefully rather more eco-friendly, projects he moves to – I think most people will see his departure as heralding the beginning of the end for that airport's expansion plans.

Reading between the lines, it would appear the board and shareholders have become increasingly concerned at the on-going delays to the planning applications. I wonder if they blamed Mr Deir for this, along with the on-coming financial recession and the staunch majority opposition of residents and groups aswell.

So, they must surely now withdraw these non-viable expansion plans and diversify into much more eco-friendly alternatives, as with the Thames Estuary proposals.

Any potential jobs at airports can be replaced by encouraging localised working and telecommunicating businesses/centres, along with more facilities for holidaying in the UK, with those travelling abroad going very largely via surface transport. Such facilities are already beginning to happen anyway, but need much greater help to flourish.

In my view such initiatives would very likely provide much better and lasting eco-friendly jobs from now on than encouraging more damaging air travel.

Ray Duff
Folkestone,

Conservation and shooting? It's a con

To respond to the pro-shooting letter writers of last week, I would just like to say, that whilst the shooters seem to present themselves as 'conservationists', the very opposite is true. In the months leading up to the hunting ban, suddenly the foxhunters themselves seemed to have the interests of the hunted animals at heart...don't make me laugh.

I have lived in the countryside most of my life, and to see these "sportsmen" lurching around the roads and fields, blocking traffic, simply so they can have the "privilege" of blasting innocent birds out of the sky – not to mention the gamekeepers, poisoning and shooting wildlife to make sure there are enough game birds to kill.

In the interests of fairness, do of course, see what the BASC have to say in shootings defence.

But also, contact the League Against Cruel Sports, or local group Animal Aid. There you will find huge and detailed reports of the real face of shooting – from the intensive breeding of game, to the cruelties of the shoot – its all there, and strangely, the BASC have yet to sue either organisation.

Conservation? Well, sadly, it's a con!

G Tillman
Thanet

Vet VAT is very vexing

I consider the imposition of VAT on veterinary bills to be unreasonable.

Why should a pensioner have VAT added to charges for putting down a sick companion animal? I signed a petition to Downing St to have this tax removed. In reply I am advised EU law forbids the removal of any VAT charge. Once imposed the item taxed is taxed forever.

I am not naive enough to expect our PM to defy his bosses in Brussels. However, I am surprised so many of my countrymen think they live in a democracy.

A F Davis
By email

Combine the theories

With all the sneering comments from the godless, about the Earth being created in seven days, I'm really surprised that all the learned clerics haven't leapt to the defence of who they claim to serve.

We know a 'day' as one rotation of the Earth, which obviously didn't exist before the Earth and Sun were created. On other planets a 'day' would not be the same length of time. Further into our universe, a 'day' could be any length of time.

The Bible uses the word 'day' to describe units of time of varying length, an actual time period or even a measure of distance. So then it is no surprise to read in 2 Peter 3:8 and Psalm 90:4, that to God a day is like a 'thousand years', as he doesn't work on the same time scale as us.

It's very interesting to note in Switzerland, billions have been spent, years of effort made and the great intelligence of many minds has been applied, to try and recreate something that supposedly happened by accident without the need for any intelligence. Nobody seems to have made the connection as to how illogical this is.

Also, nobody has ever thought of the possibility that to a degree the evolutionists could be correct and to a degree the creationists could be correct, in that it was a massive intelligence that made evolution occur.

Pure evolution doesn't explain how creatures 'know' exactly their purpose from

Letters continued on p32

YOUR LETTERS

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Letters continued from p31

the point of birth. How birds can fly thousands of miles with pinpoint accuracy, or 'know' that air currents exist to carry them where they want to go. Before they could learn by themselves, they would have been extinct It also doesn't explain why a biological 'machine', allegedly created by accident, has thoughts, feelings, emotions and can feel love, compassion and nurture.

Phil Granger
West Malling

We're being dictated to

It seems our goverment is quietly obtaining dictatorial powers that could bushwhack the general public. Here are just a few of the freedoms we have lost in the last decade:

• The Government can monitor any and all private communication (Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000);

• Spontaneous protest is now illegal around Parliament (Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005);

• Upon arrest the police have claim to your DNA, even if you are released without charge (Criminal Justice Act 2003).

The Government is bringing in more legislation undermining not only the basic principles of democracy, but also law and order.

Some well-meaning people will say these are for our own protection. If used in one way that could be correct but this is a two-edged sword that could so very easily be used to stifle yet more of our freedom

The public need to know these things and be convinced that a change of government is desperately needed by our country.

The UK Independence Party is the only party advocating a return to freedom and the independence to govern ourselves. We can do it. If sufficient people value freedom enough to vote for Ukip, freedom will be achieved.

June Moore
Tunbridge Wells

Teens should pick fruit

Strawberry producers' polytunnels contain rotten fruit. They needed picking every couple of days. A Bulgarian university student said she could get £300 per week picking fruit, so why are the English not doing it?

Paul Carter's opinion column in your paper shows the usual rationalising that is such a turn-off to genuine entrepreneurs. Local council leaders share a pervasive negativity.

Can he not see that English youth ought to be doing this as work experience to preserve traditional markets?

Destroying our orchards from the 1960s onwards was folly. We are no longer self-sufficient and habitats have suffered too. Practical training is restorative, eg: the Prince's Trust helped clear derelict allotments in 2003. Teenagers need to learn teamwork and to repay taxpayers who fund their education. They would gain essential skills.

Local councils must grow up and face the same tribulations we do instead of coercing us to pay twice and thrice over for their "structured packages" of selective services, rubber stamped by the Audit Commission.

Rita Grootendorst
Sidcup

Don't heed propaganda

When I read the letter from R Collins, I thought it a deft mix of facts and emotive twaddle. A visit to the Animal Aid website made everything clear.

Animal Aid – registered in the UK as Animal Abuse, Injustice & Defence Society – is simply a vegan organisation. As such, it has the creed that anyone who eats any kind of meat – including fish and shellfish – or consumes eggs or milk in any form, is guilty of cruelty to, and abuse and exploitation of, animals. The same applies to wearing clothing made of wool or leather, or using medical products tested on animals.

Animal Aid claims to 'campaign peacefully' against these self-defined abuses. It may well do, but is still part of the animal rights movement, many of whose members are happy to use intimination, threats, and violence to further their aims. The less public support given to these organisations, the better.

Animal Aid hides behind an appealing cuddly bunny front. Don't be misled by the propaganda – check out the website and judge for yourself.

Name and address supplied

Shooters are polluters

The R Collins letter certainly ruffled the feathers of the bird shooting lobby.

As an uninformed member of the public on this issue I am not convinced by the replies from shooters. If they care so much about these birds welfare, why are they happy to blast them out of the sky?

And thinking about it, it is certainly not conserving nature to dump the thousands of tons of lead shot every year in our countryside that pollutes our rivers and streams.

It would seem to me this has more to do with making money than conservation and so I have to side with R Collins' original letter.

D Henderson
Whitstable

Greed is now exposed

Now at last the myth has been exposed.

'The heads of large organisations, including banks, have to be appointed from the top echelons of the business world and paid grotesque salaries, receive unbelievable vast bonuses, awarded super gold-plated pensions, given a large number of free shares and guaranteed an enormously costly early termination contract'.

This is because they are supposed to be a very rare and special breed and only people of that calibre have the expertise and business acumen to be appointed to safeguard the business interests and financial solvency of the firms who are lucky enough to have secured their special talents.

The sheer irresponsible risks the chief executives in the banking world have sustained over a long period exposes once and for all that these appointees are not special, but reckless and greedy morons who deliberately embarked on unsustainable banking policies any fool would understand could not last forever. However, they did it because it suited their self interests to grow the business regardless of the long term financial dangers and turned a blind eye in the interest of enlarging their personal bonuses, and increasing the share prices and dividends in the short term.

Unfortunately, when bank chief executives fail and ruin their companies – throwing thousands of employees out of work and are directly responsible for hundreds of home repossessions and untold misery in other ways – they simply walk off with their fat pile of money and either look forward to their gold-plated pension or even have the audacity to look for a similar appointment elsewhere.

It seems we award failure as equally as success. Is it not the time to correct this ghastly unacceptable policy of overpaying top people on the myth they are so special?

J Williams
Broadstairs

We're doomed to war

Al Qaeda strikes the countries that have for many decades supported or actively participated in the bombing, occupation and looting of lands rich in petroleum.

Those who have control of global oil supplies rule the financial world.

Al Qaeda does not recognise any UN mandate. Bombing terrorist hideouts along with all the innocent civilians who perish in the process (described revoltingly by our war chiefs as collateral damage) only succeeds in igniting greater hatred of the west and recruits more terrorists.

There can never be an end to this bloodshed so long as totalitarian, plutocratic warmongers reign supreme in the White House, Westminster and the Knesset.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler
Canterbury

Families get allowance

I have been reading your article by Chris Parker saying a quarter of all children in South East England are living below the poverty line and one in three in Britain is living in poverty. He also says that many of these children could die from ill health.

I don't know what Chris Parker calls the poverty line but families of today get family allowance and other benefits. Surely it is up to the parents to see they are fed properly? It's them you should see to. I think the Government looks after children very well. In my day we never had family allowance and my parents saw we had enough to eat.

It's up to the parents to use their family allowance money properly and not spend it on mobile phones etc.

N Bennet
Edenbridge

PS In my day schoolgirls learnt cookery, but I don't think they do now. Who stopped it?

We're drowning in spin

I agree with Phil Granger (letters 14/9). After so many years of brainwashing, can the public tell the difference between the truth and spin? EU referendum, general election – 'sorry but we are trying to buy a few votes, can you ask at a more convenient time?' Take your pick. You have not offended me Phil regarding this government.

Even the national press hides our war casualties in the inside pages.

A Wanstall
Faversham

Trains are bad service

Tom Sheldrick writes about MP Paul Clark and Charles Horton saying 'Medway commuters have nothing bad to say regarding the train service'. Well I have. On June 23 on a journey from Herne Bay, as my train arrived at Strood, the Maidstone one slid out leaving me an hour to wait. One hour, just to go the one stop to Cuxton station.

P Foote
Cuxton

Floods were big in 53

In your paper dated August 14 you were asking about the big flood of 68. Are your staff too young to remember even bigger floods of 1953, when most of the Isle of Sheppey was under water also parts of Essex, Whitstable and Herne Bay? I saw it on the TV even though I was on the other side of the world in Australia. It was on all the radio stations as well, so if you didn't have a TV set you could still be in the know.

I also remember the big freeze of 87. Can any of them remember that? I have some photographs which I took from my back garden on the Isle of Sheppey.

P Truscott
Faversham

Council should listen

The wishes of the people in Cranbrook are overwhelmingly clear. They want a community centre on the redundant council office site.

I hear that from everyone in the town to whom I speak. Everyone knows that is the case; that it makes sense; that it could be done. Everyone, that is, except the leader of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Cllr Roy Bullock. Well, I am calling on Cllr Bullock to hear the voice of the town, to do what is right and to find a way to get a proper community centre on the site.

Unfortunately, up until now, Cllr Bullock has chosen to stand alone against a whole town. He has chosen to tell 6,000 people he knows what's best for them and has blatantly rejected the idea they know what's best for their town. For 18 months he has snubbed, until now, the group of Cranbrook citizens known as the Weald Centre Group, which seeks to restore community facilities to the council office site. Instead, Cllr Bullock has championed a ridiculous proposal to rebuild the library, which will include a token function room. This is despite a rejection of the

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements In partnership with the Kent registration service

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For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

BRETT
Adam John born on 12th September 2008 at the William Harvey Hospital, weighing 8lb 1oz. Son to Steve and Rachel Brett of Lydd.

BUSS
Joanne would like to announce the birth of her son Lenny Logan Buss, born on 10th September 2008 at the William Harvey Hospital weighing 6lb 14oz.

GARDNER
Kevin and Claire are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful son Jake Harrison Gardner who was born on the 25th August at Darent Valley Hospital. Jake was born at 1.04pm and weighed 6lb 15oz. We are over the moon.

HAYCOCK
Connor James Haycock born on 10th September 2008, weighing 7lb 1oz. Son to Louise and James in Larkfield.

HAYES
Evander born on 6th September 2008, weighing 10lb 1oz. Son to Caron Twyman and Mark Hayes in Dover.

McGEOWN
Lara Anne born on 19th September 2008, weighing 6lb 13oz at QEQM. Daughter to Liam and Esther, sister for William-James.

McLEOD
Rachel Buckle and Kieran McLeod celebrate the birth of their son Connor James McLeod on 4th September 2008. Brother to Callum and Brandon.

PRADIER
Emile Baptiste Pradier, born on 17th September 2008, weighing 3kilos 19gms. A brother for Clement. Thats magic!

THOMPSON
Kelan Charlie Joseph born on 15th September 2008, weighing 7lb 14oz. Son to Abi Vivienne Thompson of Ashford. Love and smiles.

WILES
Laura and Daniel Wiles of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Isla Matilda on 1st September 2008.

WILLIAMS
To Mike and Catharine of Canterbury, a beautiful daughter, Ziana Rose, born on 7th September 2008 weighing 6lb 1oz. A new sister for Tia.

DEATHS

BENNETT
Pat Bennett of Upchurch passed away suddenly on the 11th September. Missed by all the family and friends.

BOBBY
Gordon Bobby of Staplehurst passed away on the 2nd September 2008, enquiries to Buss Murton Solicitors Cranbrook 01892 510222.

CRIBB
Marion Cribb of Herne Bay passed away suddenly on 12th September 2008. A much loved mum, nan and great old nanny who will be so very sadly missed.

DUNCAN
James Laurie Duncan (Laurie) sadly passed away on 20th September 2008. Funeral service Tuesday 30th September at St Peter and St Paul Church Teston at 10:45am. Enqiries to Viner and Sons West Malling.

FAWCETT
Margaret Ann Fawcett passed away peacefully after a long illness at The Heart of Kent Hospice on 22nd September 2008 aged 65 years. Funeral to be arranged at Vinters Park Crematorium enquiries to Clarks Funeral Directors of Snodland.

FLYNN
Anne Flynn of Maidstone passed away peacefully after along illness on 18th September 2008, aged 77.

FRANKS
Sarah Jane Franks (Jane) of Ditton passed away peacefully on 19th September 2008, aged 95. Funeral service at Vinters Park Crematorium on Thursday 2nd October at 10:15am.

HAWKES
Ivy passed away peacefully at Darent Valley Hospital on 15th September 2008 aged 70 years. Much loved Mum. Sadly missed. Funeral enquiries to Welham Jones Swanley. Love Mark and Sally.

HEASEMAN-SMITH
Peggy Heaseman-Smith formerly Pugh, of Ramsgate passed away peacefully on 21st September 2008. Enquiries to Twyman and Holmes, Funeral Directors, Ramsgate 01843 852758.

HILL
Margaret Hill of Tenterden died peacefully at home on Saturday 20th September 2008. A funeral service for family and close friends will be held at Hawkinge Crematorium at 2pm on Friday 3rd October 2008.

HUCKLE
David Huckle of Mereworth known to all as Dave passed away peacefully and with dignity on Wednesday 17th September 2008, aged 55. Loving husband to Suzan and devoted father to Paul and Marie. Funeral to take place at Mereworth Church at 2.00pm on 3rd October 2008. Enquiries to Co-Op Funeral Services Maidstone.

HYDE
George Hyde of East Peckham Kent passed away peacefully on 20th September 2008, aged 86.

KIDD
Gladys Kidd of West Malling died peacefully on 12th September 2008, aged 88.

LACKENBY
Edgar William Lackenby, sadly passed away 22nd September. Loved and missed by all his family. Funeral to be held at Hawkinge Crematorium on Thursday 2nd October at 2.00pm. All friends and former colleagues welcome. All enquiries care of WJ Farrier.

PADGHAM
John Padgham, of Penenden Heath in Maidstone, passed away peacefully after a long illness on 22nd September 2008, aged 82. Beloved husband to Joan and father to Christine and Andrew grandfather to Kelly and Lindsay and great grandfather to Barnaby.

SCOTT
Janet Scott passed away peacefully on 15th September 2008 at home. A much loved Mum and Nan who will be deeply missed by all.

idea by more than 95 per cent of the town's people and its dubious suitability in terms of location and parking.

I met Cllr Bullock last week and at that meeting he told me he would now meet the Weald Centre Group for the first time. I profoundly hope he will not merely go through the motions and that he will work with these committed citizens to restore community facilities that were lost when the offices were closed a year and a half ago.

There is a chance here to show that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is going to take notice of what people say they want and need, as indeed they made clear during the council's own £24,000 consultation process. There is a chance to show Tunbridge Wells is not a remote authority and a chance to change the overwhelming perception it neither knows nor cares what Cranbrook, 16 miles away, actually wants.

I therefore call upon Cllr Bullock to take up this chance when the matter comes before the cabinet meeting (no cabinet members are local to the Cranbrook area) on October 2.

I say listen and make it happen. Work with the Weald Centre Group volunteers and do for the town what it wants you to do. They will have an open mind about the best way forward if you do. Don't let Cranbrook down.

Helen Grant
Conservative Prospective parliamentary candidate, Maidstone and the Weald

Grateful for support

At Demelza Hospice Care for Children we highly value feedback from our supporters and are grateful for Celia Bibby raising the points in her letter.

As an organisation, clearly we have grown over the last ten years, but always work hard at recognising the efforts and loyalty of our long-term supporters and those who work tirelessly to help with vital fund-raising providing services and support to the children and families within the many communities we now reach. Such generosity, particularly in the early days, came from the community, who understood the importance and need of our appeal so well and embraced every opportunity to contribute in a significant way.

Without doubt we have come far in the last ten years and would never have hoped to achieve all we have without our supporters and aim never to forget these much valued contributions.

Whether a large single donation, like the recent significant contribution from Damien Hirst and Sotheby's, or £1, each is of equal importance and value to us as it will allow us to continue caring, giving and loving whilst reaching more children and families.

Ten years on, clearly with rising costs and our new hospice in South East London which will soon be opening its doors, we now need £15,000 a day to continue our important work. We are trying to reach the 1,700 life-limited or life-threatened children in our designated area, which is a huge task but one our trustees and staff strive to achieve.

Although this income comes from a variety of sources, our contribution from community fund-raising is as vital as ever. We continue to aim to offer a diversity of fund-raising opportunities which appeal to all and maximise new innovative and appealing ways in which people can support and contribute to our future. Appealing to all sectors, whether our major donors or pensioners, it is crucial that we cover every opportunity and provide flexibility to all.

Whilst now covering a large region from East Sussex, Kent and South East London we aim to try and make our events accessible wherever possible, but clearly we will never please everybody all of the time. Gillingham Football Club was identified as a suitable location to host our birthday party when considering all the criteria including numbers, parking and accessibility. There are many excellent village halls with good facilities where some of our community events are already held. However, these are not always suitable for every event we host.

In our cost projections and budgeting of this event we aimed to keep the ticket price to the minimum. However, as I am sure you will appreciate, incorporating the various overheads and costs, including food and entertainment, our profit margins are minimal but nevertheless vital to ensure a successful outcome.

There are many events in our calendar scheduled to hopefully suit all our supporters (details at www.demelza.org.uk). Many of these opportunities to get involved are either free or a very nominal charge and indeed our recent open day where we were able to invite people along to join the fun and refreshments to thank them attracted over 530 visitors who came to share our birthday celebrations at no cost to them at all.

I am sorry Celia Bibby could not join us on our open day as one of our early and long standing supporters and feels the impression is of us becoming elitist. With the greatest respect this is not what we aspire to be, we are truly very grateful for all the support and loyalty from all our supporters and recognise their important contribution.

As chief executive I am always humbled by the ongoing generosity of our supporters. There is no doubt we can offer the services we do to the children, young people and families who use all the Demelza services due to the fact all the communities we serve have taken us to their hearts.

In turbulent economic times Demelza must continue to appeal to all supporters and offer a wide range of ways in to which to support us.

Thank you to Celia and all our supporters for their valuable fund-raising in the past and their continued loyalty in the future.

Ted Gladdish
Chief executive, Demelza Hospice Care for Children

Cutting cost of cancer

Cancer patients will have the burden of prescription charges lifted from them soon, thanks to campaigning from Macmillan Cancer Support and your readers.

At the Labour Party Conference on Tuesday, the Prime Minister announced that as of next year there will be free prescriptions in England for cancer patients and those with long term conditions.

Macmillan has campaigned for a fairer deal on prescription charges for cancer patients since 2005, and is absolutely delighted the Government has listened to us.

Cancer patients in England have been struggling to pay these unfair charges for too long and it is great news they will no longer face this added burden when they are living with the disease.

I would personally like to thank our supporters and your readers who wrote in to back this campaign. It is a fantastic result for people living with cancer and must now be implemented quickly and clearly by the Government.

Stephen Richards
Director for London, Anglia and the South East, Macmillan Cancer Support



Sunsets are beautiful

Early in September I was fortunate to be able to spend a week's holiday on Santorini.

The Greek island is a wonderful place and I have to say the mountain top town of Oia simply has to be one of the most beautiful locations in Europe. Each evening huge crowds congregate across the island to see the incredible sunsets and in the hope of viewing the lost city of Atlantis.

Well, sunsets certainly are incredible and visually uplifting events, but I also have to say that, on this score at least, many of the sunsets viewed from Margate are just as spectacular.

During the past week alone I have witnessed sunsets to rival anywhere in Europe and experience tells me the forthcoming month of October is often the period when our most dramatic sunsets occur.

So take an early evening trip to Margate and join us in celebrating a natural phenomena with which our town has been blessed.

Cllr Clive Hart
KCC Margate & Cliftonville

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TV Loyd takes up university arts post

TELEVISION presenter Loyd Grossman has been named chairman of the board of the University of Creative Arts, which has a campus in Canterbury.



Grossman, who has starred in such popular programmes as Through the Keyhole and Masterchef, will head up a group responsible for the future development of the university.

He said: "The University for the Creative Arts is already playing an important role in making the UK one of the world's leading creative nations.

"Nurturing creativity brings huge benefits to every part of our society and I believe the university has a great deal to contribute to the economic success of the UK.

"I am thrilled to be offered the chance to help steer UCA forward at such an exciting time."

Presenter Geoff presents awards

BBC South East presenter Geoff Clark was guest speaker at West Kent College's higher education awards ceremony.

Successful students received their prizes at the parish church of St Peter and St Paul in Tonbridge, with the celebrations continuing after at Tonbridge Castle.

Awards were handed out for such achievements as student of the year, outstanding performance and for endeavour.

Deputy principal Alison Monk said: "We are delighted to be able to celebrate the achievement of so many of our students who have undertaken a university-level programme at West Kent College, and we congratulate them all."

Group digs deep to improve staff skills

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE firm behind Diggerland in Strood has teamed up with Mid Kent College to help fulfil the training needs of its employees.

HE Services Group, which also owns Masterhitch and HE Services (Plant Hire) Ltd, selected the college as its preferred bidder with plans for the development of its entire workforce in mind.

Chairman Hugh Edeleanu was pleased to secure the deal.

He said: "At HE Services Group we are keen to ensure our staff are fully supported at work.

"Appropriate training is key in enabling them to improve their skills, confidence and career prospects.

"I firmly believe that by offering employees the chance to gain a nationally recognised qualification that relates directly to their job, we are securing the futures of both our business and our staff."

Assessors from the college will design and deliver NVQs in a range of subjects related to employees' day jobs.

The same training packages will then be rolled out across the country at 12 other HE Services plant hire depots and the Diggerlands in Yorkshire, Durham and Devon.

Mid-Kent College principal Stephen Grix highlighted the importance of having fully-trained employees.

He said: "Without skilled, appropriately-qualified workers, a business simply cannot succeed.

"However, many employers do not have the means to meet their employees' training needs.



TRAINING BOOST: Mid Kent College business development manager Jacqui Brown and HE Services (Plant Hire) Ltd chairman Hugh Edeleanu

"For this reason, partnerships between businesses and education are marking the way forward for training within employment."

The scheme, which has the Learning and Skills Council's approval for Train to Gain funding, will also offer HE Services staff a chance to improve their basic skills.

Fully-funded qualifications in adult literacy and numeracy will run alongside main programmes of study.

Mr Grix said: "Schemes like Train to Gain and the Skills for Life initiative can help to alleviate the financial strain of training delivery.

"By working in collaboration with the further education sector, employers can gain access to this funding as well as colleges' training expertise.

"I hope this is the first of many national contracts for our business development team, who are committed to meeting the training needs of all our associate businesses, large and small."

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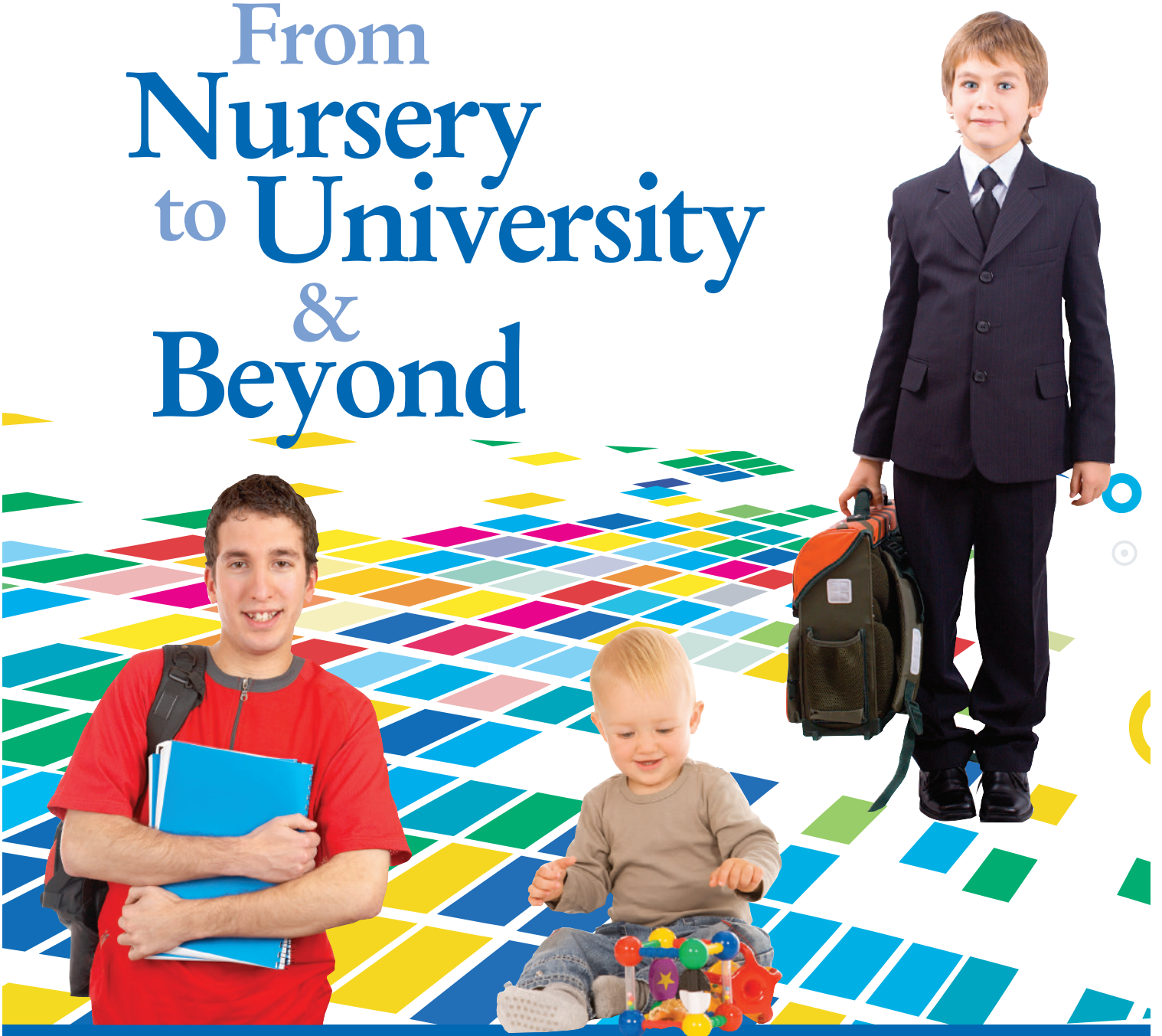
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LEARNING'S NOT JUST FOR THE YOUNG PXXI



Balancing the books may be easier than you think

PAYING your way through university can be tough for many of today's students – many work part-time while studying and the millstone of the student loan hangs heavy on many young necks.

However, shocking numbers of students who could be eligible for financial help are unaware of just what is available for them.

Research in the summer by polling company YouGov found that three-quarters of young people surveyed did not know about eligibility for student grants.

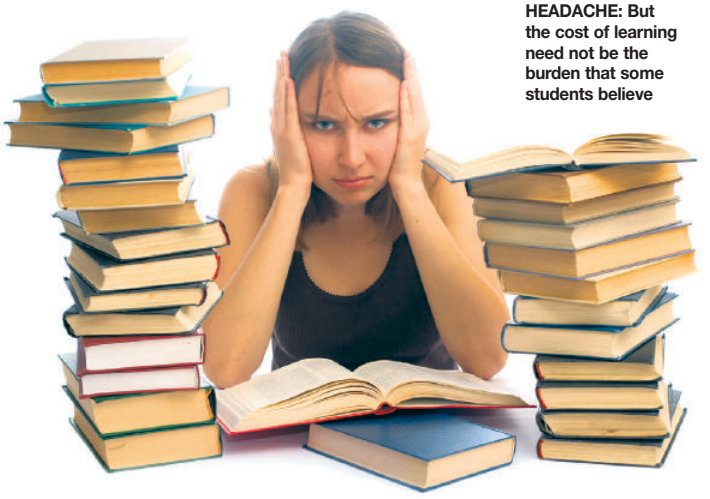
Some 75 per cent did not realise that students were entitled to a maintenance grant if their household income was under £60,000.

Maximum

And only 12 per cent of young people surveyed could correctly identify that they were entitled to at least a partial grant if their family income fell below £60,000, while almost two-thirds (64 per cent) did not guess correctly that the maximum grant was £2,800 and a further one in four (28 per cent) did not know what they were really entitled to.

In fact, students from households with incomes up to £25,000 qualify for the maximum grant, and those from a household with an income up to £60,005 are entitled to a partial grant.

Maintenance grants are designed to help cover the costs of living and accommodation and, unlike student loans, do not have to be repaid. The independent research, commissioned by the University of Greenwich, also revealed that the level of tuition fees was a significant factor in decision-making by young people.



HEADACHE: But the cost of learning need not be the burden that some students believe

A quarter of 16- 18-year-olds would be more likely to study at a university that offers tuition fees lower than the permitted maximum.

The University of Greenwich says it is one of only a handful of universities to offer a lower fee for honours degrees: £2,835 rather than £3,145.

Other major findings from the research are:

• Young people are too gloomy about how much student loan repayments will cost.

They expect a graduate earning the average graduate starting salary of £19,000 a year would have to repay £150 a month – almost five times more than the true figure, which is under £30 a month, or less than a pound a day.

• Seventy-one per cent of young people in the survey are worried about getting into debt and 58 per cent are worried about the rising cost of living.

• One in four surveyed (22 per cent) mistakenly believed that tuition fees needed to be paid up front at the beginning of each year. In fact, fees can be paid back through student loans once a student graduates, starts working and can afford it.

Dr Margaret Noble, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Greenwich, said: "This is the third year that we have carried out this research with YouGov.

"The findings have remained remarkably consistent, showing that young people thinking about going to university have many misunderstandings about debt and tuition fees.

"Greenwich has a fee which is lower than most other universities, offering high-quality education at an affordable price.

"Every new student will benefit from paying a fee below the maximum.

"Our aim is to attract students from a wide range of backgrounds, invest in their education, improve their chances of success and help them into good jobs after graduation.

"Higher education is a great investment in your future, which leads to better jobs and higher pay."

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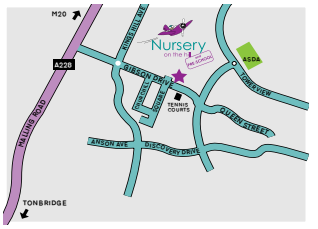
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PASS RATE: Pupils across Kent jumped for joy at their exam results

Schools pass Balls' exams challenge

HARD-working pupils and teachers are ensuring Kent's schools continue to enjoy year-on-year improvements in exam results.

Figures for GCSEs, A levels and Sats were all up again this summer, with many schools recording large increases in the number of students achieving the top grades.

More than 15,000 youngsters aged 16 took their GCSEs last term, with an increase in attainment for the 13th year running.

Estimates show that at least 67.1 per cent of these will have achieved five or more A* to C grades, up 2.2 per cent from last year.

Meanwhile, 50 per cent of pupils received five or more A* to C grades including maths and English, which is an increase of 1.5 per cent.

Funding

A number of Kent schools suffered a blow to their GCSE exam preparations when schools secretary Ed Balls introduced the 'national challenge' for schools that had less than 30 per cent of pupils achieving five good grades including English and maths.

The schools listed would receive extra funding and help, or risk being closed down if they did not reach the target by the Government's 2011 deadline.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

However, despite having little time to change anything before pupils took their exams, a number of schools on the list recorded noticeable improvements.

The Wildernesse School, Sevenoaks, (up 17 per cent) and Northfleet Technology College (up 15 per cent) were among those that jumped above the 30 per cent target.

Several others saw big increases and are expected to reach the benchmark before 2011.

Cllr Chris Wells, who has since stepped down from his role as Kent County Council's cabinet member for education, said at the time that he was pleased for the schools that had proved the minister wrong.

He added: "I think our results show Mr Balls got it wrong when he set up this challenge and made it seem as if our schools were failing.

"I will look forward to writing to him with a list of the improvements that have been made, and will also be asking for an apology."

Meanwhile, more than 7,000 students received their A-level and equivalent results last month, with 93 per cent achieving two or more A to E grades.

This was the highest figure since 2002.

Dover Grammar School for Girls achieved the highest average point score per student in Kent at 1065.8 points, while Oakwood Park Grammar School in Maidstone achieved the highest average point score per entry at 252.

Students at the mixed selective Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Faversham also celebrated high-grade scores from several students, with two achieving five A grades, four achieving four As and three achieving three.

All gained enough points to take up higher education places.

Understanding

Exam successes were not just limited to secondary schools, as Kent's primary schools recorded their best-ever Sats results in English and maths.

The proportion of Kent pupils achieving the expected level for mathematics has risen every year for the past five, and this year there was a 2.5 per cent increase compared with the one per cent national rise.

In English the increase was 2.6 per cent compared with two per cent nationally.

Early years foundation stage results show that improvements were achieved in 12 of the 13 areas of learning.

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Kent County Council

Top tips for getting the best school

KENT is one of the few places in the UK to have the 11-plus test, and it has long been surrounded by controversy.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Until this year, pupils taking it had to choose their secondary school before they knew if they had passed.

Picking a grammar confident of a pass meant their second-choice school in the event of a fail often didn't want to know.

That left families in an educational no-man's land.

We asked leading educationalist Peter Read to look at the problems surrounding the tests.

Mr Read, an independent education adviser, said: "Parents of 10-year-olds are well aware of the controversy around the new arrangements for Kent Selection Tests, which took place last week.

"Nevertheless, there was a considerable increase in numbers taking the tests, for two main reasons.

"Firstly, there was nothing to lose as results are known before school choices have to be made. Secondly, with the declining economic climate, some families are switching from private education and are now chasing grammar school places.

"However, a quarter of all Kent children will still be found suitable for grammar school, so there will no greater pressure on places.

"The Kent Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) now allows parents to name four schools, rather than the three of previous years.

"I see four main scenarios for choice of schools after Kent test results are published on October 20.

"1) If the child has passed the Kent tests, you can name only grammar schools on your SCAF. If you are not offered a place at any of these, you will probably be allocated the nearest grammar school with a vacancy, but there is no requirement for Kent County Council to do this.

"2) If your child has not taken the 11-plus, you can only apply for non-selective schools.

3) If your child has taken the 11-plus and not passed, but you wish to appeal, you must name the grammar schools you wish to appeal to on the SCAF, together with any non-selective schools you wish to apply for. Appeals will not be heard until the summer term of Year Six.

4) If your child has passed the 11-plus and you name grammar schools and a non-selective school you will be offered the highest school on your list for which you are eligible.

"The process of identifying which one school your child will be offered on National Offer Day, March 2, 2009, is called an Equal Preference Scheme. Each school draws up a list of eligible applicants in terms of priority according to their oversubscription criteria.

"Schools are not told where you have listed them on the SCAF, so list schools exactly as you prefer them and don't be swayed by any school telling you it gives priority to those who list them first.

"Your child will be offered the highest preference school for which they are eligible. This means that some children could get their fourth choice ahead of others who listed it first, if their claim is stronger.

"In Kent, pressures on school places vary enormously around the county, with each town having its own characteristics – so do your homework, ask questions and find out your chances at the schools which interest you.

Playground rumour

"There is plenty of advice around. Try your primary school head-teacher, the excellent KCC Admissions Brochure, Kent's own choice advisers at choiceadviser@kent.gov.uk, or my website www.kentadvice.co.uk.

"Be very careful of playground rumour – it is often wrong!

"My very best wishes to you all for a successful application."

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Six terms into three can go when it comes to the holidays

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE newly-introduced six-term school year in Kent has gone largely unnoticed by teachers and staff.

Instead of the old three terms split in half, we now have six separate terms in the year, effectively making the expression half-term outdated.

But some school staff admit they are still finding if hard to break the habit of a lifetime.

One teacher said: "Only the other day I was pulled up for saying half-term, when of course it wasn't."

Easter

Paul Curtis, deputy head of Norton Knatchbull School, Ashford, admits the change has not really had a big effect on them.

He said: "If you have noticed any difference between our old three-term year and our new six-term year, then I wish you'd tell me.

"The only difference is that the Easter two-week holiday is now fixed for the first two weeks in April, whereas it used to be over Easter.

"This has fixed all the term lengths, which is probably a very good idea. It just means Easter doesn't fall within that and you end up with a long weekend somewhere else.

"We still have to do 190 school days, so it all levels itself out."

Disruption

He said the change was unlikely to lead to a massive rise in parents trying to take their children out of school during term time for family holidays.

Mr Curtis said: "We try to encourage parents to avoid taking their children out of school while lessons are on.

"We send them letters saying attendance is a legal requirement.

"Taking them out obviously disrupts the education of that student.

"But worse than that, it can affect group work if lots of students are not there during term time.

"This group work is important to their education.

"But if you keep whipping them in and out, it is very disruptive.

"My concerns are that with this credit crunch the allure of having cheap holidays out of school holiday time may well mean this year we might get more going during term because their parents will asking why they have to pay so much more to go during school holiday time when the prices can just about double.

"I have some sympathy, but of course the education of the students is our prime concern."

Find more education news updated online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Investment pays off for art college

BROCKHILL Park Performing Arts College has received an Investors in People award for staff development.

The award provides a framework for improving performance and competitiveness through training and development.

Principal Sonette Schwartz, who took charge at the Saltwood college this term, said: "Our Investors in People recognition had lapsed, but it is a tribute to my predecessor, Anthony Lyng, that he decided to make time for us to be reassessed.

"I am delighted to say the school received a glowing report. Having the Investors in People standard is a way of showing what a fine school we have here.

"Because we have an academy system in place, which creates four communities within the campus, students and staff are able to work in smaller groups than they would otherwise."

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Supermarkets cut uniform prices – but at what cost?

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE price of school uniforms has terrified parents for generations, and in recent years supermarkets have got into the act offering some ultra-cheap prices – but are they worth it?

Tesco and Asda hit the headlines by offering full uniforms for under a tenner, but Tesco has already stopped selling them as the new term gets into full swing.

And a Kent school outfitter has criticised the stores for trying to cash in short-term.

Ethical trading

Asda said it had Britain's cheapest outfit at £9.96, including shoes, and of course it started a high-street price war.

It includes a polo shirt, vest, sweatshirt, briefs, socks, trousers or skirt, and black scuff-resistant shoes.

The price tag is for children from three to six, but larger versions are available at £12.96 for six- to 10-year-olds and £13.96 for 10- to 12-year-olds.

Woolworths then jumped in, selling generic school trousers and skirts for £2, shirts and blouses for £1, jumpers and cardigans for £2, and shoes for £8.

Some schools still insist on parents using clothes with a particular logo or trim, which means a greater expense. Consumer group Which? found that in some cases the more costly outfits were of poorer quality, creating an extra strain on parents' purse strings.

A report from the Office of Fair Trading found parents were paying a combined extra £45 million a year.

Angela Spindler, managing director of Asda's clothing wing George, said: "Buying the back-to-school wardrobe puts a strain on any parent's purse.

"As we sell more school uniforms than anyone else in Britain, we want to put more money back into our customers' pockets."

And Woolworths' school uniform buyer Debbie Lauchlan added: "There is intense competition among retailers for the £1 billion back-to-school market and it's important for us to offer our customers the best possible value.

"School uniforms are cheaper than ever before and our quality standards have not been compromised."

The charity War on Want accused Asda of using sweatshops, but the company said: "George sources everything it sells ethically.

"By using fewer suppliers, its dedicated sourcing team now has long-term relationships with the factories it uses, all of which are regularly audited to make sure that they are working to both George's and the Ethical Trading Initiative's code of conduct.

"If an audit highlights any irregularity, George will work with the supplier to put it right."

Gill Hatton has run uniform shop School Time in Railway Street, Chatham, for 18 years. She said: "Bespoke uniforms for secondary pupil can run from £150 upwards, and around £20 to £30 for infants, plus shoes.



SMART: Asda promises parents a bargain

"But I only sell excellent quality clothes. We are always here. Once the likes of Tesco and Asda sell out, they don't necessarily replace.

"As for the quality, anybody in their right mind will realise that you get what you pay for.

"There is no point selling anything that a parent is not going to be able to pass on to a sibling. It is a false economy buying cheaply. That's where they save in the long term.

"There is no comparison with what I sell and what the supermarkets sell.

"Many parents won't have to buy anything again from us for years and that is down to the quality of the items we sell.

"Children can get through cheap uniforms very quickly – they can be scuffling, falling over and even chew on the cuffs because of nerves.

"I do keep prices down, and I feel we offer great quality at a competitive price."

A report from the Centre for Economics and Business Research found the average cost of sending a child to school is £1,077 a year on average, which includes the uniform at £266 per child, meals on £388 and sports kits at £207.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families said: "Uniforms are an excellent idea and instil pride and identity.

"They encourage good behaviour and discipline but should not be excessively priced, making it tough for parents to afford."

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‘Text me your ideas’ MP asks schoolchildren

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

FIRST-year pupils at secondary schools in Gillingham and Rainham are being asked to text their MP with ideas on how the towns can be improved.

The scheme forms part of MP Paul Clark’s Year Seven challenge, which also invites youngsters to complete a related survey on his website.

Mr Clark, who is the Parliamentary private secretary to schools minister Ed Balls, said it was important young people were given the chance to voice their opinions.

He said: “Although MPs are elected by people who are over 18, they work for everybody in a constituency and that includes young people as well.

“I have written to all 11-year-olds who have recently started secondary school to wish them every success in what is a big step for them.

“Texting is second-to-none for young people when it comes to communication, so it is the best way for them to tell me what they want to see to make Gillingham and Rainham better places to live.

“Some of their ideas may be undeliverable, but a lot of them may also be entirely possible. It will be interesting to hear what they say.”

Letters detailing Mr Clark’s challenge were distributed to more than 1,000 pupils earlier this week.

Also included on Mr Clark’s website was a message of support for the first-years from Mr Balls in the form of a YouTube video.

He said: “I know the schools in Gillingham and Rainham are good schools, and there are great teachers who will give you all the backing and support you need.

“The most important thing is take advantage, ask the questions, stay late, work hard, have a great time.

“It will be the most important few years of your life. Enjoy it.”



KEYPAD: Paul Clark in Downing Street

Mr Clark said Mr Balls was happy to support the initiative.

He added: “It wouldn’t surprise you to learn that he is always keen to hear suggestions from young people.

“They are our future and it’s very important that their voices are heard because what we do today affects them tomorrow.”

Mr Clark also recorded a video message for the youngsters, which was filmed around Westminster, including on the steps of 10 Downing Street.

In the video, he said: “School is hard work, but above all it should be fun as well.

“And who knows – I’ve become the local MP, you might be the next Prime Minister. Good luck.”

The number first-year pupils can text their ideas to is 07531 844587.

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New courses in construction build on uni's foundations



DESPITE the recent economic problems hitting the country, construction is still expected to be one of Kent's growth industries in coming years.

Large-scale building projects are planned across the Thames Gateway and other regeneration sites, and work on the London Olympic facilities is set to soak up much of the construction skills base.

To meet this growing demand from Kent's building industry, the University of Greenwich at Medway launched a range of construction courses this month.

The university has experience of teaching for the construction industry, with courses accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB).

Now new courses have been added at Medway, and students will be able to sign up for undergraduate and postgraduate courses in building surveying, construction management, architectural design and quantity surveying.

There are also specialist facilities for students at the Medway campus, including the civil engineering laboratories. Peter Dalton, from the university's school of architecture and construction, said: "Construction is coming to the University of Greenwich at Medway to meet the growing numbers of people from within Kent who require specialist training.

"We notice from our records that many students are travelling up from Kent for our construction courses at Avery Hill in south London, so we have decided to make extra training available from the Medway campus.

"As a county, Kent has a lot of construction schemes on the go and will continue to do so into the future – especially with regeneration of areas such as the Thames Gateway.

"As a university we felt it was important that we help meet the skills demand there is now and will be in the future – and these courses will provide training and education to the next generation of construction professionals."

To find out more see www.gre.ac.uk, phone 0800 005 006, or email courseinfo@greenwich.ac.uk.

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Schools' health check



HEALTH BENEFITS: Good food for pupils

THERE are more than 420 schools across the county that can boast Healthy School status.

Kent County Council says its target to have all schools working towards receiving Healthy School status by 2009 is set to be smashed this year, as 99 per are currently working with the Kent healthy schools programme.

Some 70 per cent of Kent's schools have so far reached the quality mark.

The healthy schools scheme supports the whole school and contributes to raising pupil achievement while providing opportunities to improve the health and well-being of pupils, staff and the wider community.

The impact of the programme is based on a whole-school commitment to physical and emotional well-being. It is focused on four core themes – personal, social and health education; healthy eating; physical activity; and emotional health and well-being.

Benefits include improving behaviour and attendance, improving performance in SATs, promoting positive relationships, reducing the incidence of bullying and reducing teenage pregnancy and drug, alcohol and tobacco use among young people.

Chairwoman of the healthy schools strategy group Joanna Wainwright said: "Across Kent, schools are seeing the real value of this work and that it's about working together to improve the quality of people's lives.

"It's about the whole-school community, children and parents, staff and governors learning together, being involved and feeling happier and healthier."

The county's healthy schools programme is a partnership between KCC and the NHS.

The Kent healthy schools programme is an accredited part of the national healthy schools programme, which is supported by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the NHS.

Since gaining Healthy School status, Hunton CEP School in Maidstone has gone from strength to strength in its projects and pupil awareness.

Although the school had a gardening club for many years, the main kitchen garden has now doubled in size and the 'Rocket Roots' gardening club now produces a range of organically-grown fruit and vegetables.

Last year the club grew enough salad and produce for a picnic for parents, pupils, governors and staff attending the school's open evening.

Jabs land blow against cancer

CHIPS with everything – they have been a British staple in the diets of schoolchildren, but the Government is determined to drive home the message of healthy eating.

And it has also introduced anti cancer jabs for girls in school.

The Government wants primary schools in two areas of the UK to get free meals within a year as a two-year trial – that's for all the children with the aim of training them to like good food early.

And that's something even food campaigner Jamie Oliver will enjoy. His new menus introduced in schools have been criticised by some and even led to some parents smuggling fast foods into schools through the railings.

The free food will cost £40 million, but ministers feel it will be worth it in the long run, and it may be extended around the country.

Some say it will cost some £1 billion a year to cover all UK schools.

The results will be evaluated to see if there was an increased uptake of healthy meals and improvements in children's behaviour, obesity and general health and well-being.

Schools Secretary Ed Balls said: "We want a healthy lunch at school not just for some, but for every child. And we want to make sure that children, particularly children from disadvantaged backgrounds who need it most, are getting a free hot meal every school day."

Meanwhile, Medway council will introduce a vaccine to protect girls against cervical cancer this autumn.

The trio of jabs over six months will be administered to girls aged 12-13 and 17-18.

Others will be in a catch-up programme in the next two years. The injections will be at schools or doctors' surgeries.

Director of Public Health for Medway Primary Care Trust Dr Alison Barnett said: "For the first time we are able to routinely vaccinate against cancer.

"It will prevent a higher number of women developing the disease with all the associated anxiety and suffering. It is also important that all women continue to respond to invitations for cervical screening tests as the vaccine does not prevent all cervical cancers."

KCC schools will also be administering the vaccine in its schools over the coming months.

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Pay-to-stay scheme eases money worries

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
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STUDENTS are being paid up to £30 a week in a bid to encourage more teenagers to stay in post-16 education.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a means-tested financial incentive available to 16-, 17- and 18-year-olds with a household income of under £30,810.

The Government says the scheme, which is targeted at young people from low-income families who have left or are about to leave compulsory education, leaves students with fewer financial worries so they can continue studying.

In Kent and Medway, more than 15,000 students are benefiting from the scheme, which saw £11.6 million dished out to help young people from under-privileged backgrounds stay in education during the academic year 2007-08.

The figures from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) show 2,747 students received the payment in Medway during the last school year.

Introduced in 2004, the 'earn to learn' scheme was launched to improve the relatively low rate of people staying in education, and nationally the Association of Colleges expected 600,000 students to receive the payments this year.

The Government said continuing to learn was important so that young people could work out what they enjoy, what they are good at and how to achieve what they want.



ALLOWANCE: You could get cash to study

EMA is paid straight into students' bank accounts, meaning it can help with the cost of books, travel, equipment or anything they believe will help them continue studying.

To continue receiving the weekly money each term, students must prove they have good attendance records.

Students must be enrolled on a course that is either a full-time education course at college or school, a LSC-funded diploma or a course that leads to an apprenticeship or an LSC-funded 'entry to employment' course.

The amount that young people receive is not affected by money they earn from part-time work and will not have an effect on other benefits.

Students with household incomes of up to £20,817 per year receive £30 per week.

Those with incomes of between £20,818 and £25,521 get £20, and for students with parents earning between £25,522 and £30,810 they receive £10.

The flagship scheme is widely thought of as a success and during pilot studies in 56 out of the country's 150 local education authorities 'staying-on rates' improved, according to research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Loughborough University.

However, controversy hit the scheme at the beginning of this month when some 150,000 young people faced delays receiving their grants after a series of blunders at the private company responsible for distributing them.

EMAs are part of the Government's plans for all young people to stay in education until they are 18.

Legislation is currently going through Parliament to raise the school leaving age to 17 by 2013 and 18 by 2015.

But the Government has said EMAs will continue regardless of the statutory school leaving age rising.

For more information and to apply, phone the helpline on 0800 121 8989, or visit www.direct.gov.uk.

'We will meet the targets and do it ahead of deadline'

NATIONAL Challenge is a new set of benchmarks the Government expects all secondary schools will reach by 2011.

That means at least 30 per cent of all pupils at every school will get at least five GCSEs over a C grade in subjects that must include maths and English.

In all there were 638 schools around the UK which need to do a lot better.

Schools secretary Ed Balls said already 260 under-performing schools, including 16 academies, have improved under the new £400 million programme and hit the required targets.

Those that repeatedly fail will be closed or replaced with academies.

Mr Balls said: "We are on track to get to our target that every school should be a good school by 2011."

But he admitted lifting the remaining schools would be tougher, but up to 400 new academies could eventually be on the horizon.

Those that seem to be failing long term will be assisted by nearby successful schools to create what will be called National Challenge Trusts.

Mr Balls told the Labour Conference the first three Trusts would be given up to £1 million to "get the best teaching and support". None are yet planned for Kent.

The county council said the National Challenge is the next stage of the Government's school improvement plan.

The aim is to transform schools, improve results in English and mathematics, and raise achievement by young people. All local authorities have been asked to set out plans to transform schools which achieve less than 30 per cent of five A*-C results for GSCEs, including mathematics and English, by 2011.

Leyland Ridings, KCC cabinet member for children, families and education standards, said: "I'm very confident we will achieve the 2011 target and, like the previous target, we will do so ahead of that deadline."

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By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

On your marks for the 2012 Olympics

IT'S not that far away, really – and Kent County Council says it is determined to help youngsters learning everything there is to know about the 2012 Olympics.

Following Britain's success in both the Olympics and Paralympics in Beijing, KCC said it was doing all it could to ensure the county was ready for the London Games, and that it was starting in the classroom.

County Hall said the arrival of the world's biggest cultural and sporting event was getting closer all the time, which was why it had launched the Kent 20 in 12 learning programme.

Paul Carney, the programme's learning theme manager, based at Canterbury Christ Church University, said: "The project aims to use education and learning to maximise children and young people's engagement with the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"Through selected learning themes that relate to the Olympics and Paralympics, the aim is to create a range of opportunities and challenges across the curriculum which inspire and capture the imagination of children and young people.

"The Kent 20 in 12 learning programme is designed to be fully supportive of the national education programme for the Olympics and Paralympics, and will enable Kent schools and settings to work towards national recognition."

This will ensure every child and young person in the county has the opportunity to engage in educational experiences that relate to the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

A spokesman said: "What we would like, is that when London 2012 begins, every child and young person in Kent will be legitimately able to say 'I was involved, this is what I achieved'.

"The programme is designed to complement the national Olympic education programme.

"The central idea is that the London Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012 will be used to inspire learning across the curriculum for children and young people in Kent.

"It is a learning programme for the whole curriculum; it is not just for PE and school sport."

Five learning themes will be selected over the years as a stimulus for cross-curricular learning projects and collaborations; the projects will be carried out in schools and settings or in partnerships.

Broadly, they are The Olympic and Paralympic Values; 5 Rings, 1 World; Creativity, Innovation and Movement; Challenges, Records and Personal Bests; and The Olympic and Paralympic Legacy.

KCC says there is the exciting potential for 'cross-phase' collaboration as education settings from the early years through to higher education will be involved.

The spokesman said: "Following the fantastic achievements of Team GB in the Olympic Games, and the formal handover of the Olympic flag to London, it is time to begin thinking about perhaps the most exciting sporting and cultural event to take place in our lifetime.

"The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games are an exciting opportunity to engage children and young people, involving them in the lead up to the Games, and ensuring that they feel part of the event.

"We cannot afford to let such an opportunity pass by."

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GOLD: London Mayor Boris Johnson and Team GB arrive from Beijing with the Olympic flag

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HTC



How 3-year-olds get a great start

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE earlier you start the better you will get is a rule for many aspects of life – and no where more true than schooling.

This month the new Early Years Foundation Stage, or EYFS, was introduced into all schools and pre-schools in the county and of course the rest of England.

It brings together the care and educational needs for children from birth to the end of their reception year, identifies the developmental stages and focuses on ensuring that no child is left behind.

Kent has already laid down the foundations for early learning. Last year another 2,000 three and four-year-olds took up their free entitlement to nursery education and for the third year running the number of children in Kent achieving across all six statutory areas of learning has increased.

Targeting resources carefully and working in partnership with providers is helping to give more of Kent's youngest children the best start in life, said Kent County Council.

This is backed up by a favourable assessment by Ofsted, the official body for inspecting schools, County Hall said.

Parents and carers can find out about free entitlement for up to two years starting in April, August or January, following their child's third birthday from the Kent Children's Information Service on 08000 323230 or at www.childcarelink.gov.uk.

Meanwhile, a small survey conducted by the National Childminding Association found some registered childminders in the UK have not received advanced EYFS training.





FOUNDATION: New targets are designed to get youngsters off to a flying start in life

NCMA chief executive Liz Bayram said: "Our telephone survey revealed that while a lot of childminders did receive EYFS awareness training, not all of them had.

"Furthermore, many of them had not gone on to see more in-depth training on the EYFS four themes or on observation and record-keeping."

'Outstanding' schools director is set to retire

THE man credited with transforming educational services has announced his retirement.

Graham Badman is leaving Kent County Council at the end of November after seven years leading education and, latterly, children's services, in the county.

Mr Badman became director of education and libraries in 2002, and now the service is ranked in the top quartile nationally for its educational achievements with the best ever school results this year in the county's history.

He became managing director of children, families and education in April, 2006, when KCC became a children's services authority.

In partnership with headteachers and his senior management team, Mr Badman developed the Secondary Strategy which was key to the Government's approval of accelerated status for Building Schools for the Future in Kent.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "Kent has benefited from Graham's strong leadership and clear strategy for all phases of education.

"He has been awarded the CBE for his services to local government and education but I suspect Graham will take greatest pride in the Ofsted Joint Area Review, recently published, which describes his services as 'being imbued with a clear moral purpose' and that strategic leadership of his directorate is outstanding."

Mr Badman said: "These have been the best seven years of my professional life. I am delighted by Kent's achievements and recognition.

"This has been a team effort and I owe a huge debt of gratitude to many people – my officers and the many headteachers who have worked with me as well as two exemplary chief executives and supported by cabinet members and the outstanding political leadership of Lord Bruce-Lockhart and Paul Carter."

Mr Badman is a governor of Christ Church University, and a governor and trustee of three Kent academies.



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Meet the principal put in the Box seat to end a college's nightmare of failure and inadequacy. Chris Britcher reports

FRIDAY the 13th is not normally a day that many people relish. But for one of the biggest educational establishments in the county, June 13, 2008, proved to be something of a horror story.

Because it was on that day that Ofsted, the Government's school inspectors, unleashed a report that would give everyone connected with South Kent College nightmares.

The college – which has campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover – saw the word "inadequate" applied with liberal abandon in a report that attacked everything from the teaching and standards of achievement, to its management and financial state.

In short, an educational establishment that serves more than 14,000 students at any one time – be they in full- or part-time education – was given a report that threatened its very future. Not so much a case of 'must try harder' but 'if this continues you'll be shut down'.

Figures for 2006-07 revealed it was a making a worrying £1.6m loss, too. This was a college living outside its means, and not delivering to either the students or communities it serves. And where public money was being frittered, the alarm bells began to ring to deafening effect.

In the aftermath of the scathing findings, the governing body initiated a major shift in the make-up of the college.

It parachuted in a fire-fighting interim principal, a specialist in turning around the fortunes of failing institutions, and now it stands on the precipice of proposing perhaps the most significant change in its history.

And change it must. The college plays a vital role in the future education of 16- to 18-year-olds in three areas of the county. Not only that, but it draws in students from across the rest of the county, too. Failure is not an option, and, according to the new principal who stepped in last month, will not be tolerated.

"We get paid for every student who comes here," explains Monica Box, drafted in on a one-year contract to salvage the college's tattered reputation, and the latest in a line of principals that has seen five new faces in the last four years.

"That funding is coming from local taxpayers through government to provide a further education service and skilled development – they have an absolute vested interest in having that right to a quality service and they should be demanding it.

"Our young people and adults coming here have an expectation to get a good service. And we should help those people know what 'good' looks like."

Monica Box is not quite what you expect.

With more than 30 years in education behind her, she is credited with the turnaround of Calderdale College in West Yorkshire, an institution which suffered similar problems to that she faces now.

She was also principal of City College Manchester, leading it through merger preparations and a recent Ofsted report that delivered 'good' to 'outstanding' ratings.

Yet in person she is not the imposing figure you expect. Her voice is soft and gentle with a Mancunian twang (the mother of three now-adult children commutes every Friday back to her family home in Manchester, returning back down the M6 in her trusty Astra diesel every Monday morning); her staff rib her gently for a penchant for losing her glasses, while her slight build could deceive you into misjudging her.

It would be a mistake.

For underneath her calm, collected and extremely controlled exterior, lurks a woman with a strong will and a real commitment to implement change.

"When she says she wants something done," says a colleague from her days at City College in Manchester, "you know it needs to be done.

"She doesn't throw her weight around, but she is clearly a very determined woman who expects people to act on her wishes.

"Fortunately, those wishes are very sensible and invariably work in the best interests of the college in which she is working."

Fiercely defensive of her teaching staff, Box describes herself as having "no ego" nor, she says, does she fear for her enviable reputation as she looks to turn around the fortunes of the college.

"When I first went into education," she explains in a controlled manner, each phrase carefully considered before it is uttered, "I just wanted to engage in teaching and learning and see people succeed. And it's the same now.

"When I first started I wanted my 30 kids to succeed at the end of the year. Now I want 5,000 to succeed at the end of the year. You need different strategies. But it always boils down to a simple equation.

"If I was 16 years old, what do I go to college for aside from the social side? I want to get a qualification, a job, a place at university, to get promotion. We have to focus on that.

"If I'm a parent working in the day dashing home, feeding the kids, to get to an evening class to get an extra certificate, I want to come in and know I have every chance of achieving that if I put my money into the resource here.

"Everyone who comes in here brings with them a bounty of money to pay for their training, so we need to be able to deliver that.

"What I say to staff is that we're not a business but we're a service delivered in a business-like way."

Much relies on Box's ability to stop the rot at the college and implement long-term strategy changes to ensure that when the Ofsted inspectors visit again – next April, says the smart money – they see that winds of change are blowing through the three campuses.

'Everyone who comes in here brings with them a bounty of money to pay for their training, so we need to be able to deliver that. What I say to staff is that we're not a business but we're a service delivered in a business-like way.'

Sat in the Folkestone headquarters in a modest, small and somewhat stuffy office as the last of the disappointing summer sunshine streams through the skylight, Box has been in the post less than two months but says it's been a case of so far so good.

"When Ofsted comes in and sees what they believe to be a poor delivery of service in lots of areas – but sound in other areas – they want to come back to see that progress is being made. I feel very confident that when they return they will see progress and report on it and be satisfied with it.

"A lot of work will have to take place before they come in, but overall my analysis at the moment is that the college is doing huge amounts to sort out its own issues. There is definitely progress that is measurable."

Spread over three very different sites, the college serves a mighty slice of the county's youth – in addition to adults pursuing part-time courses – in a huge variety of subjects.

Yet with three sites comes three distinct sets of costs just to keep things running on a day-to-day basis.

"Say you take 2,500 16- to 18-year-olds that you're serving between the three sites and get, say, £3k per learner per course," explains Box.

"If you're a college delivering that on one premises you have one set of lease arrangements, one reception, one refectory service. If you deliver split across three main sites, everything is multiplied in triplicate.

"Ofsted does not take account of that when it comes in. So if your finances are bad because of that, they don't take that into account.

"They just put that down to poor leadership and poor management. I'm not using that as an excuse, but it is relevant."

To that end, discussions are already under way on moves to change the way the three sites operate. Changes seem inevitable – but all three seem set to live to fight another day.

She explains: "Long term there will be provision in all those three areas. I believe there needs to be. If you say to me will they be in the same buildings and have the same facilities, I think the answer to that is no.

"The key thing anyone should be bothered about is that the service is there. They should not be too precious about a particular building.

"What we need to do is say what's the service we need here and this is the amount of money we have to run it. Let's not be secret about it, it's public money; anyone who wants to pick the phone up and call me asking how much the college gets and where that money is spent, I'll tell them. They have a right to know.

"And we need to look at working with partners to deliver that service wherever is best in that catchment area."

Those plans just could involve partnership with the private sector, potentially teaming up with a business to help provide a course in specialist surroundings and with specialist staff while reducing costs to the college. It's just one suggestion that could be discussed.

In Ashford, the college's plans are central to the town's development. It intends to sell its Jemmett Road site and instead build a multi-million-pound learning campus in Victoria Road – a major town-centre complex that could become a signature building for the ever-growing town.

Folkestone, however, will remain its headquarters.

Back to the here and now, and a major overhaul of the behind-the-scenes background data management has already been implemented. It may not be on the frontline, but it is a key foundation to running a good service, Box insists.

So what of the teaching? One of the few areas Ofsted did not slate was staff morale, yet surely poor achievements are the result of poor teaching?

Box refutes the claim, as you would expect; if you want people to pull with you, alienating



'Monica is a determined woman who will expect people to act on her wishes'

NEW BROOM: Principal Monica Box has taken over at South Kent College

them as a first step is not good management. Yet her faith in them must be empowering. She wants – and indeed needs – them to deliver in the classroom.

"I think what you will find in an organisation such as this, where there is inefficiency," Box explains, "is there is a lack of control at all levels and the inefficiencies are people not being clear of what they are supposed to do.

"If there are poor teachers, there are poor managers, and the leadership is to blame. This is not about SKC having poor teachers, it is about SKC having poor leadership to improve that teaching.

"Staff morale is described as being good, but it's really about staff caring about what they do – the teaching and learning. That is still there and will only increase as they get more recognition of that.

"What's remarkable about all that was that everyone still maintained a pride in what they were doing, even though external organisations such as Ofsted were coming in and saying what they were doing wasn't quite so good. Their pride will be reinforced as success rates improve."

Among the changes already implemented is the appointment of nine 'advanced practitioners' – teachers as competent at teaching colleagues as much as students.

It's a shrewd move and Box knows it.

She explains: "I hope teachers will see that as an extra resource. So it's not a case of me going in and saying 'I want things to be done like this', but their own colleagues are helping. It's genuinely their colleagues who drop in to give them support and help."

Yet while all of these tweaks take place, there is, on the horizon, a change that could transform the college forever more.

Because South Kent College could be set to become the first in the country to embrace an innovative new merger strategy which could transform its fortunes in just three years.

And if governors take the brave step it will see one of the country's top-performing establishments take over the college's management and be paid to implement a pioneering short-term plan.

Governors meet on September 29 with three options on the table – including two to merge – and a decision one way or the other is expected.

The first is with Tonbridge-based West Kent College. Seen as a traditional merger, it would see SKC come under the umbrella of West Kent.

But despite existing SKC management believing Folkestone would remain the headquarters, even if a merger option was followed, West Kent chiefs insist they will look to centre the operation in a new multi-million-pound complex planned for Ashford.

Bill Fearon, principal of West Kent College, explained: "In the event of a merger between the two local colleges, the intention is to operate a multi-centred college across the five main towns of Ashford, Dover, Folkestone, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells, with Ashford and Tonbridge as the two main centres in the foreseeable future.

"Adult education courses will also run from Deal.

"Current WKC and SKC managers will form a new team and will be deployed across all centres as appropriate."

SKC has long made it known it plans to sell its existing Jemmett Road site in Ashford – and build a major new 'signature' building in Victoria Road, close to the town's centre.

Mr Fearon added: "When the new Ashford Learning Centre is built, it is likely to form the main management centre of the college because of its central position.

"The establishment of 'local brands' in the five towns is a priority, and each will cater for local people, avoiding the need to travel and negating any perception of a 'large, sprawling' college.

"The strength of a local merger between West and South Kent Colleges lies in the many innovative opportunities this will bring, not least through working with a wide range of education and training partners from local universities to employers, and from schools to community groups.

"It is proposed that if a new college is formed, the name should be the result of consultation with students, staff and stakeholders."

But a more intriguing option is with Sussex Downs – a college in Lewes, East Sussex, that is presenting a "strategic alliance".

Given an 'outstanding' rating for leadership and management in its last inspection, the proposal would see the college sign a contract for three to five years to draft in its management team to take over SKC's running.

Crucially, Sussex Downs would be paid for the service that would be reviewed at the end of each year and payment only made if targets have been hit.

At the end of the three years, the college would resume under its own management and, hopefully, build on the success.

Such a step would be likely to be welcomed by the Government and the Learning Skills Council – which funds further education – which has recently expressed a preference at seeing more innovative strategies rather than straight mergers.

The other option is to stay as a separate entity and look to overcome its difficulties with no external assistance; something of an outsider of the choices.

"I think both options have great benefits, and this is the difficulty facing the governing body," says Box.

"In some ways it was easier for the governing body when it was just a question of merger and who to do that with. Now they have the opportunity of merger or something else.

"We are very fortunate we are the first college in the country to have such a choice put before us.

"With West Kent, you can look at the prospect of being incorporated into a much larger college, so potentially creating a large college across a large area under one name, or it could be SKC remaining with its same locality focus having been rejuvenated, redesigned in terms of the way it operates and still remain in three, four or five years' time the same entity but highly improved through a beacon college partner.

"My preference? Whatever is best for the college."

Whether the college pulls its metaphorical socks up will only be seen over time. One thing is certain – it must improve in order to serve the communities and our future generations.

The options before it should ensure that come August 1, 2009, whoever is in control can steer it into calmer, more successful waters.

'What's remarkable about all that was that everyone still maintained a pride in what they were doing, even though external organisations such as Ofsted were coming in and saying what they were doing wasn't quite so good. Their pride will be reinforced as success rates improve.'

Find more education news updated online www.kentnews.co.uk

Parents need to understand how new diplomas work

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

TEENAGERS in Kent who have just returned to their studies at the start of this school year are among the first to start the Government's new diploma courses.

The qualification for 14 to 19-year-olds, which includes a mix of academic and vocational work, is being offered as an alternative to A levels and GCSEs.

Kent County Council estimated that within two years' time more than 3,550 young people would be studying for diplomas across the county.

Schools and colleges in England are now teaching diploma courses, including construction and the built environment, creative and media, engineering and information technology.

But their implementation has proved controversial, they have faced criticism for being confusing and a recent report led by Oxford University raised fears they would be seen as the 'poor relation' of A levels unless the traditional qualification was scrapped.

Canterbury College will be offering the creative and media diploma from September, 2009, and has put together information for parents and pupils considering taking the new qualification ahead of its launch.

A spokesman said it was important for parents to get all the facts so they could help their children make the right choices and decisions about their future.

There are three levels available to study – foundation, higher and advanced. The qualifications do not replace existing learning options and students can still do GCSEs, A levels and apprenticeships alongside a diploma course.

However, Ed Balls, the schools secretary, has previously said he believes diplomas could replace traditional A-levels and GCSEs as "the qualification of choice" for English teenagers.

A foundation diploma is worth the same as five GCSEs at grades D to G, the 'higher' course is equal to seven GCSEs at grades A* to C.

The advanced diploma is worth three-and-a-half A levels to students and a 'progression' qualification is also available, which is the equivalent to two-and-a-half A-levels.

From 2011, an extended diploma will be available containing extra maths and English.

After completing the diploma, students will get a list of the all the separate qualifications they have achieved on the course. For example a diploma in engineering would list all the separate elements needed to achieve it.

"What is important is that doing a diploma will not limit any future options for your child," a Canterbury College spokesman said.

"With this qualification, they could stay at school, go on to college, do a degree at university, start a career or do an apprenticeship."

Next year environmental and land-based studies, business, administration and finance, manufacturing and product design, hospitality and hair and beauty studies will be added to the list of courses.

Another four diplomas including travel and tourism will be available from 2010 and in 2011 the Government plans to offer more academic diplomas in humanities, languages and science.

Canterbury College said the benefits of the new qualification included study relating to real world situations through carrying out projects and applying them to solving practical, work-related problems.

The higher and further education college said because diploma students have to cover theory as well as practical skills they will keep their options open for the future.

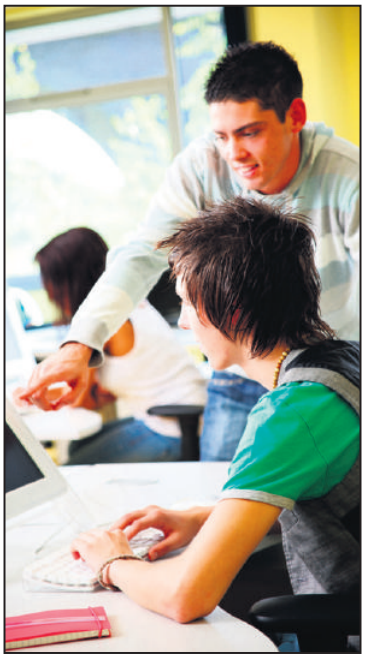
More information is available for parents and pupils through Connexions, careers advisors, teachers and the Directgov website www.direct.gov.uk.

ON WEDNESDAY diploma students from across Kent gathered a cinema in Westwood Cross for a 'Critical Incident Day' to discover the range of services needed to cope with an emergency.

The police, fire service, social services, magistrates, solicitors, paramedics, and ambulance service all took part to share their expertise in workshops designed for diploma students in health society and development.

The scene was set by actors and a film before students took part in workshops. At the end of the day they saw the emergency services cut open to cars involved in a simulated traffic accident.

Teachers and students from Thanet, Dover, Sandwich and Medway all took part in the diploma day.



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By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Now there's so much more to do in schools between 8am and 6pm

KENT schools are well on the road to providing what are known as 'extended services' across the entire county.

These are activities either before or after normal lessons, which central government is insisting are available at every school by 2010. They run from 8am to 6pm all year round.

Knowing they were going to eventually be a major requirement, Kent County Council started its introduction of the extended services in 2003.

Since then children, young people, families and even whole communities in Kent have been experiencing the benefits of accessing 'extended services' in and around schools, said the county council.

These activities are not always on school property – they can also involve a nearby centre or even a childminder.

KCC said this key government initiative will improve both educational attainment and social well-being by offering things like extra study help with subjects including languages, arts, and homework.

Kent was one of the first authorities nationwide to develop this approach to things like breakfast clubs, holiday play schemes and sports.

Sometimes a payment is required, but some services are also free.

In the past five years, some 69 per cent of schools in Kent are now Extended Schools, exceeding the Government's national targets at this stage.

The authority said parental support for some of the activities is vital and welcomed through Family Liaison and the Parent Support Adviser programme.

One popular connection is with Charlton Athletic FC to promote the playing of football.

On a more academic level the majority of schools are offering community access and information on parenting support, specialist services, childcare, including breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, study support and family learning.

And 99 per cent of Kent schools are engaged with the Healthy Schools programme.

There is also parent support providing access to information and guidance on issues that may affect their children and the wider family, like sexual health, relationships and drug abuse – especially at times of change and transition such as starting secondary school.

Plus there is specialist support for things like speech therapy, behaviour support and family support.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families said there are five elements to extended services that will be made available by 2010.

These are high quality, affordable childcare from 8am-6pm all-year round; a varied menu of activities; parenting support; swift and easy access to specialist support services; and wider community access to school facilities.

Cabinet member for education operations, resources and skills Cllr Mark Dance said: "I am very enthused by the extended schools programme. From providing services before and after school to making facilities available for community use during evenings and weekends, schools will truly become a hub in their local area."

For more information phone 01622 694991 or see www.kent.gov.uk/kentextendedservices.



GOAL: The Government wants schools to be open from 8am to 6pm to serve many groups



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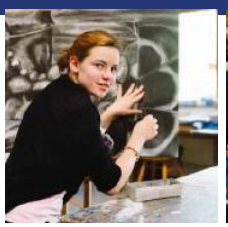
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Email **school@mgs-kent.org.uk**

You can also visit our website!
www.mgs.kent.sch.uk

Outstanding Ofsted – February 2008

Extra year of school to learn skills for life

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

YOUNGSTERS just starting secondary education this month are set to be the first in Britain to be staying on an extra year.

Government is expected to give the final go-ahead to raise the leaving age from 16 to 17, and by 2015 plans to raise it again to 18.

It is to give students a better chance of a fully rounded education, said the Government.

Instead of just a classroom, students will also have a choice of 'staying on' in training or workplace training said the Department for Education and Skills.

If MPs agree the details set out in the upcoming Education and Skills Bill it would be the first increase in the leaving age since 1972.

The move has been prompted by growing concerns that many youngsters are leaving the classroom without proper qualifications that could help them in the workplace.

Many are without even the most basic literacy and numeracy skills.

Lots of pupils already do stay on at school sixth forms, colleges or other further education, but some leave school as soon as possible, and the new leaving age rules are aimed at them.

Presently, 76 per cent are in education or receiving training – which will mean the remainder will either have to begin workplace training or return to further education.



SKILLS BASE: Raising the school leaving age is 'inevitable' says the major teaching union

The Government's schools secretary Ed Balls said: "We believe we can't have young people leaving school at 16 going into work or not having a job and not having any skills because in the end they won't be able to pay the mortgage or get a pension."

He added: "We want to give a skill to every young person. It's a really big task and it's going to take us five or six years to do it."

The new intake of pupils could face fines and even prosecution for playing truant under the new rules if they refuse to attend class after turning 16.

National Union of Teachers leader Steve Sinnott said the move was "inevitable".

He said: "We cannot afford to neglect those young people who currently leave school at 16 unprepared for the rigour and demands of life in the 21st century."

It was back in 1870 that it first became compulsory for children to have to attend school, and a decade later the first truant officers were appointed for pupils aged five to 10.

From 1899 the leaving age was 12 until 1918 when it rose to 14. The end of World War Two saw it rise again to 15. Some 20 years later it was announced it would go to 16, but that did not start until 1972.



NEW MAN: Edward Balfour and his family

I'll carry on the excellent work

NORTHBOURNE Park School has started the academic year with a new headmaster.

Edward Balfour has joined the school, between Deal and Sandwich, from Bradfield College in Berkshire.

Mr Balfour said: "Northbourne Park is a unique school and its emphasis on providing an excellent all-round education aimed at developing happy and confident children ties in perfectly with my educational beliefs.

"The school is going from strength to strength, growing in numbers and last year we continued our 100 per cent success rate at Common Entrance.

"We are aiming for our best academic results ever this year, whilst giving children the opportunity to excel in our extra-curricular and outdoor education programmes with plenty of drama and music mixed in."

Northbourne Park School will be holding an Open Day on Saturday, October 4, from 10am-12.30pm.

Northbourne Park School is a co-educational day and boarding school for children aged 3-13.

The school has a nursery and infant division for children from 3-7 offering early and late services, and a prep school, for children aged 7-13.

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Girls' Day School Trust

Taking a gap year to improve your job skills ... and you earn cash

GAP years are usually associated with students travelling to far-flung corners of the world, often to carry out voluntary work.

But the Kent County Council Gap Year Programme offers opportunities for both young people looking for experience a little closer to home, and companies searching for high-calibre employees.

The programme promises to consider the needs of both parties, allowing it to bring them together in a mutually beneficial relationship.

This has been another successful year for the programme and it has now hundreds of young people in employment throughout the county.

With the support of KCC and Kent businesses, students have had some amazing opportunities, ranging from chemical engineer to library assistant.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Organisers claim each post has been of great value to both the student and the company, as these comments testify:

"I would recommend the Gap Year Programme to students either as good work experience for the future or as a potential step into a future career," Helen Terry, working with transport integration at KCC.

"The Gap Year Programme has been really helpful.

"They took into consideration the type of work I was after and found me many suitable interviews.

"Having a fixed term contract has made it a lot easier for me to plan the rest of my year out," Jennie Pryor working with ifs (School of Finance).

"The gap year scheme has been very beneficial to Canterbury Library.

"We have found that the recruitment of gap year students is a very smooth and fast process.

"Each student that we have met has been of a high standard, hard working and very employable," Martin Owen at Canterbury Library.

The programme offers placements for between three and 15 months as well as some permanent opportunities for A-level students, undergraduates and graduates.

Education news updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk



SKILLS BASE: You could up working in a lab during your gap year

Schools win praise for the harmony in their classrooms

SEVENTEEN Medway schools have been presented with an award to recognise the progress they have made towards creating inclusive and harmonious places to learn.

Medway Council's director of children and adults Rose Collinson presented eight schools with the Medway Inclusive School Quality Mark award during a ceremony at Abbey Court School in Rainham last week.

Sue Nicholson, director for the Alliance for Lifelong Learning Quality Mark Programme, presented another nine schools with awards for achieving the Primary and Secondary Quality Mark during the same ceremony.

The Medway Inclusive School Quality Mark was launched in October, 2002, to recognise and celebrate the progress of the area's schools towards inclusion based on the statutory National Curriculum Inclusion Statement published in 2001.

The Primary and Secondary Quality Marks are national accreditations that acknowledge the effort schools put in to raise achievement and attainment in literacy and maths, working closely with parents and carers.

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It's all change at isle as schools go two tier

By **JAMES ALEXANDRE**
james.alexandre@kosmedia.co.uk

THE controversial switch from a three to a two-tier school system on the Isle of Sheppey was given the go ahead by the Government last month, ending four years of wrangling and protest.

The decision will see Cheyne and Danley middle schools and Minster College close next year, to be replaced by a £48 million flagship academy, bringing the island into line with the rest of the county.

This follows the verdict of the independent schools adjudicator in July, who approved the plans provided ministers could guarantee the establishment of the 2,450-pupil academy.

Year four pupils will stay on at their first school from this September as part of the changes to admission and entrance arrangements

The academy will be based at the Cheyne and Minster College sites.

Theresa Langworthy, of the Sheppey Parents' Action Group, said she was "not surprised" at the decision, but added there was still plenty to scrutinise.

She said: "We will be keeping a close watch on what happens next year to see how the plans pan out."



SCHOOLS OUT: Minster College will close, along with Cheyne and Danley middle schools

She said there were still outstanding issues, such as what percentage of which school's curriculum is included, how the academy is to be managed across two sites and the issue of transport between the two.

"Parents haven't learned the fact that much of what has been promised will not be delivered for another three or four years," she said.

"Much of the new technology cannot be in place until the academy itself has been built.

"We don't know what it is going to look like as there is still planning permission to be given.

"And there are rumours that part of Minster College's site is to be sold, so there's an awful lot left to be seen."

The issue of education has divided opinion on the island after accusations that Kent County Council and other partners involved in the academy project had failed to consult widely enough.

Confident

In July governors at Cheyne Middle School, which now faces closure, appealed against the secondary phase of the proposals, which prompted the matter to be referred to the schools adjudicator.

Mark Dance, the then KCC cabinet member for education, said: "The county council is pleased that this matter has finally been decided and is confident that the two-tier system will better serve the educational needs of Sheppey children."

Until now Sheppey has had a three tier system of primary, middle and secondary schools.

This will be replaced by primary schools and the academy.

Find more education news updated online
www.kentnews.co.uk

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Not too late to bridge the skills gap and boost your prospects

THINK of Kent and you may summon up images of oast houses, cathedrals and the famous White Cliffs.

But the county is a diverse region with areas that also have marked levels of deprivation and low levels of achievement.

The shocking facts are that Kent and Medway have fewer young people going to university than anywhere else in the South East – 21 per cent compared with 33 per cent.

Its workforce has less advanced skills, it is a net exporter of graduates and one third of its adults have no educational qualifications at all.

This means there is a shortage of skilled staff and it's predicted demand for highly skilled workers is set to rise by 8.5 per cent.

The economy in some traditionally depressed areas – Ashford and the Thames Gateway for example – is getting back on its feet.

But there is still a challenge to bridge the skills gap – that universities, colleges and other organisations are set to tackle.

They teamed up to form the Kent and Medway Lifelong Learning Network in 2007 – a three-year £3.85 million programme, backed by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

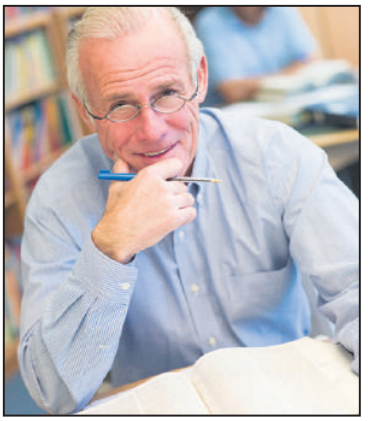
The initiative has a special focus on vocational and work-based courses, aiming to help thousands of people gain new skills and progress into higher education.

A team of staff, based at the University of Greenwich's Medway campus, has been established under the leadership of Hugh Joslin, director of the Kent and Medway Lifelong Learning Network.

University of Greenwich Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Margaret Noble said: "It is very important for the economy of this region that more people should have the opportunity to upgrade their skills, or gain new ones, to provide the workforce that employers need.

"The Lifelong Learning Network will offer information, advice and a wide range of courses, from short programmes to degrees and postgraduate awards, making it as easy as possible for people to engage in university level study."

The network includes Canterbury Christ Church University, the University of Greenwich, the University of Kent, the University College for the Creative Arts at Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester, Canterbury, Hadlow, North West Kent, Mid Kent, South Kent, Thanet and West Kent colleges.



HELP AT HAND: You're never too old to learn

'The lecturers were so nurturing and I could study near my home'

JILL England gave up studying when she left school but, after bringing up her family, returned to learning and qualified with just the sort of work-related skills employers want.

"I've always been interested in gardening so I enrolled for the Royal Horticultural Society general certificate course run by Hadlow College.

"It was important to me to study locally – I wouldn't have applied to a college where I couldn't stay at home with my family.

"Having gained a credit in the exam I decided to follow my interest in plants and horticulture by finding a job at Madrona Nursery, specialising in rare and unusual plants.

"I soon realised I needed to study horticulture if I wanted to develop a career in the industry and enrolled for an HNC at Hadlow, working my way through to the University of Greenwich course BSc Hons Horticulture (Commercial), while continuing to work at the nursery.

"When I started, I didn't think I would go on to do a degree at that time, but equally I think I probably wanted to.

"It was important that the lecturers were so clearly committed to the students doing well, with a very nurturing culture and open-door policy.

"Once I started to achieve good grades, this spurred me on to maintain a high level, and of course there was always the dread of failure.

"By now the science involved had caught my interest and I applied to study for a PhD at Imperial College Wye, researching the biology, epidemiology and control of liverwort in nursery plant containers.

"I have just started working with environmental specialists ADAS as a horticulture consultant, where I am hoping to bring together horticulture and science, working with growers and industry bodies to develop projects that will help to solve difficulties and improve growing techniques within the industry."





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- *Art & Design*
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SATs forcing schools into double jeopardy

THERE are many that feel the SATs tests – designed to check the level of education each child has reached – have run their course.

Critics say they are simply putting young pupils under too much stress and the pressure of having to pass the tests is creating an atmosphere of worry in the classroom.

Leading education advisor Peter Read admits he is not a fan of the SATs and believes their days are numbered.

He said: "SATs were introduced to drive up standards in schools.

"Instead they have damaged the education of a generation of children as teachers have been forced to 'teach to the test' as schools are urged to meet targets of higher league table places.

"Through my work, I talk to many parents of children in their last term of primary school and always ask what they are doing in school.

"Consistently back comes the answer they are preparing for SATs.

"The summer of the previous year, Year Five, they are preparing for pre-SATs. Many spend the spring term of Year Six preparing for mock SATs. Children are coming through primary school believing that education is all about preparing for tests – much of the enjoyment has gone out of school as a result.

"Teachers' and headteachers' careers depend on SATs. If they were the answer to driving up standards, why does no other developed country test children in this way?"

There were problem this year with the marking of tests, and the results were late arriving at schools. Consequently there have been suggestions SATs may soon be scrapped and possibly replaced.



TESTING TIMES: Are primary school children being put under too much pressure?

He said: "This year's debacle appears destined to see the end of SATs, but government statements suggest that we must still keep on testing in some way.

"Why not trust teachers a little to develop talents like imagination in our children. Let's see the spark put back into schools.

"We have a large organisation called Ofsted that once went into schools and inspected standards in the classroom.

"Ofsted has now changed direction. They spend far less time in schools, as they now base inspection results on SATs outcomes.

"This is double jeopardy for the school that tries any other approach."

Help for life on campus is just a click away

OFF to university? Here are some top student websites to help you out:

1 – www.thestudentroom.co.uk
You can get help with life's big and small decisions from other students. Studying, socialising and sex – this website has the answers for whatever you need to know.

2 – www.studentbeans.com
A one-stop-shop to help students stretch their loans. It provides students with free access to hundreds of discount vouchers.

3 – www.studentgems.com
Use your skills to earn money at a higher rate and gain valuable work experience.

4 – www.wealthystudent.co.uk
Aiming to help students leave university with money in the bank with advice on the site and from a free book.

5 – www.groupspaces.com
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6 – www.beyondbakedbeans.com
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7 – www.liveout.co.uk
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By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Rewriting history books to put slave trade centre stage

HISTORY lessons are taking another major turn – students will now be studying the slave trade alongside events such as World War Two.

The radical chance has been criticised by some who fear pupils will be leaving school with little knowledge of Britain's own history.

A recent poll showed a worrying number of youngsters had no idea who Winston Churchill was.

There will now be more emphasis on the study of black Britons and other ethnic minority groups in the history curriculum.

Youngsters will be told they should study topics such as the abolition of slavery in the British Empire and the work of reformers such as William Wilberforce, the MP who campaigned for its abolition.

They will also examine the life of Olaudah Equiano who was one of the most prominent people of African heritage in the British debate for the abolition of slavery.

He was a former slave who amazingly managed to buy his freedom and work as a seaman, merchant and explorer.

He then wrote a moving autobiography on the horrors of his life as a slave.

Some of the key questions teachers will be posing in classes as they together brainstorm the now illegal industry which once thrived in Britain, are 'did slaves have rights?' 'what does it mean to be free?' and 'does slavery exist in the world today?'.

However, curriculum planners are anxious the subject should not just portray ethnic minority groups as victims during history essons.

Topics on the Civil Rights Movement in the US, Mughal India and the arrival of the British in India will also be included.

This is to show civilisation did not just begin with Britain and the rest of the Western world in the 19th century.

The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, the national curriculum watchdog, said: "The national curriculum for history gives pupils the opportunity to explore the social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of various societies."



CHAINS: Abyssinian victims of the slave trade

Traditionalists have criticised the curriculum content for specifying characters such as Wilberforce and Equiano by name, while omitting mention of noted politicians such as Sir Winston Churchill, whose home was at Chartwell near Westerham.

Michael Gove, the shadow Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, has said: "Winston Churchill is the towering figure of 20th-century British history.

"His fight against fascism was Britain's finest hour. Our national story can't be told without Churchill at the centre."

However, the QCA argues that there is still a strong emphasis on the study of World War Two – and that teachers are sufficiently intelligent to realise they cannot teach the topic without mentioning Churchill's role in it.

It points out that Hitler's name is missing too, and that it would be impossible to teach the topic without mentioning him either.

And Aidan McQuade, the director of Anti-Slavery International, added: "Only with a better understanding of the transatlantic slave trade will we be able to tackle its legacies.

"Today, 12.3 million people are still forced to work against their will, trafficked into slavery, forced into bonded labour or born as slaves.

"Learning about the transatlantic slave trade will help students better understand modern slavery and will hopefully inspire a new generation of abolitionists to take up the fight to stamp out slavery in all its forms."

Children will also learn about notable black figures in American history and the civil rights movement in the US.



FINEST HOUR: War leader Winston Churchill





Take a fresh look at the way our new academies really do make a difference

AS KENT'S newest academy throws open its doors, we asked a leading educationalist to examine just what goes into making them work.

The £25 million Longfield Academy near Dartford managed to open for 1,000 students in record time, said one of its co-sponsors, Kent County Council.

It was funded by the Department for Children Schools and Families and three local sponsors, Leigh Academies Trust plus co-sponsors, the University of Kent and KCC.

Executive principal, Frank Green, said: "This will see the start of Longfield Academy's contribution to the raising of educational standards in the northwest part of Kent.

"I am proud to be part of this project and to work with the academy's senior team to give local young people the very best possible start in life."

The academy will start life in the former Axton Chase School while the brand new academy is built alongside.

It will house 1,150 boys and girls aged 11-18 and will have inclusive admissions policy, accepting pupils regardless of their faith and academic ability, based on proximity.

It was announced in March this year, and is already open following consultations.

We asked Peter Read, who runs Kent Advice, an education help group for parents, to look into the pros and cons of academies.

This is what he said:



OPENING: Executive principal Frank Green, interim principal Neil Willis and Minister for the South East Jonathan Shaw at Longfield Academy

Building crisis; what building crisis? Kent secondary schools have seen an explosion of investment in new buildings over the past three years, and the commitments continue.

I estimate some £250 million is being invested in the new academy programme, with probably another £60 million on two in the pipeline.

Six schools, Ellington Girls, Aylesford, Holmsdale, The North in Ashford, and The Malling, have been replaced under Private Finance Initiatives, another £100 million of investment.

We now have Building Schools for the Future, designed to replace or substantially rebuild every other secondary school in Kent over the next 15 years, although how long the money keeps coming in the current financial climate is anyone's guess.

The first phase is now being finalised: Ifield Special School in Gravesend being the first to be completed last month, Northfleet College of Technology, St John's Catholic and Thamesview School all in Gravesham about to be completely replaced under PFI, and another seven schools in Gravesham and Thanet being substantially rebuilt. The cost is some £150 million.

Kent County Council has made a policy decision to attract maximum finance into Kent to improve poor quality building stock, but the academy programme is certainly the biggest and most radical programme.

Academies are schools independent of the local authority, with enormous freedom of action: teachers can be paid on different scales, often attracting high quality staff; academies don't have to follow the national curriculum and many are becoming innovative both in content and teaching and learning styles; there is usually a strong commitment to ICT both as a skill and as a classroom tool; and new premises as every academy gets a new building, are funded at a higher level than normal schools.

Of course there is a downside: academies are under intense pressure to succeed, and so children who do not conform can be a major problem – the rate of exclusions is very high in some academies, excluded children adding to the burden of neighbouring schools.

These often suffer by comparison, so many good schools suddenly decline in popularity. Evidence that academies are succeeding remains patchy – some very good practice, but others are struggling.

Success often comes by attracting different pupils from aspiring families.

Parental concerns find no local accountability – often there are no parent governors – just an advisory parent council – complaint to the Department for Children, Schools and Families appears fruitless.

Academies need sponsors although some categories do not need to invest funds.

These play a major role in academy governance. In Kent these include: Roger De Haan, Microsoft Computers, Crown Imperial, Holiday Extras, Kent's universities, several highly academic private schools, and the Church of England.

Nevertheless, whatever the pros and cons of academies and their future destiny, the investment will remain.

Academies were intended to be formed from failing schools, in urban areas which are socially deprived. How many of the following fit those criteria? Those that do are Marlowe Academy in Ramsgate, Folkestone Academy, The Isle of Sheppey Academy, and New Line Learning Academy in Maidstone.

Those that don't are Leigh City Academy, The Marsh Academy in New Romney, The Longfield Academy, Spires Academy in Sturry, and Cornwallis Academy in Maidstone.

Under consideration are Christchurch CofE School in Ashford, and an amalgamation of Bradbourne Girls and Wildernesse Boys in Sevenoaks.

More than half a billion pounds is being spend on Kent schools.

N ow that's what I call an investment!

• For more details on this and other educational subjects, visit Peter Read's website at www.kentadvice.co.uk.

County town to be offered 21st century curriculum

BY 2010, Maidstone's first two academies will be completely transformed, offering new buildings, enhanced 21st century curriculums and outstanding facilities for pupils.

Construction work on these state-of-the art buildings for New Line Learning Academy in Loose and Cornwallis Academy in Linton begins in November and will cost £62m.

Facilities such as learning plazas, extended vocational centres, performing arts theatres and outdoor performance arenas are all in the pipeline. There are also plans for music/art studios, hi-tech specialist rooms and sporting facilities.

Executive principal, Dr Chris Gerry, said: "The new academies will be innovative exemplars of what is possible to enhance pupils' education in the early 21st century.

"At its heart, there lies an ethos where pupils come first and academic standards are met, with programmes underway to cater for each child's social and emotional needs."

Both academies have their own specialisms. NLL Academy's is in business, enterprise and vocational studies and its 1,050 students have a range of opportunities at its Boughton Lane campus.

To help pupils obtain skills for life there are nine vocational courses and a thriving farm which youngsters have access to before and after lessons.

Cornwallis Academy holds its specialism in technology and science and spans across 13 hectares at Hubbards Lane.

There is a focus on students obtaining skills to help them in their careers, with links established with the business world.

There is also a vocational centre for the 1,630 students and a sixth form offering 41 courses, including media studies, film studies, photography, physics, art, childcare, psychology and government and politics. Some 75 per cent of sixth formers go to university.

Dr Gerry added: "While obtaining qualifications is extremely important in today's society, there is an understanding this does not guarantee long-term success.

"Therefore a mentoring model is being pioneered with Yale University so teaching staff can assist students to improve their social and emotional skills.

"We are very much behind 'individual learning' so there is great emphasis on using ICT in learning programmes, with a partnership already formed with Microsoft.

"When it comes to caring for a child's well-being and helping them to excel in education, our academies are very much leading the way."

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To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter, stating current salary and quoting reference SS254/KOS, to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: human.resources@saga.co.uk Closing date: 17 October 2008.

saga.co.uk

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The Marlowe Academy

Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT10 1HQ
Tele: 01843 593326 www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Team Leader Vacancy

Team Leader for Mathematics
Salary Leadership Scale L13 – L14

Now in its fourth year, Kent's first Academy continues to challenge traditional approaches and to drive up standards – over twenty students have now gone on to university and last year's 5A*-C GCSE figure topped 50%. Real progress has been made with the 2011 National Challenge, but we believe that the creation of this Leadership Team post is crucial to our continued success.

The successful candidate will at least have:

- relevant middle leader experience;
- a background in Mathematics;
- energy, drive, commitment and ambition;
- and excellent communication skills.

Jenny Spooner, our Personnel Manager, is administering the appointment process. Please email her for details at Jennifer.spooner@marloweacademy.co.uk, as well as the chance to tour the Academy with our Principal, Ian Johnson.

The closing date for applications is Friday 10th October 2008.

We look forward to hearing from you.

JobsforKent.co.uk The smart way to find a job in the County

northfleet technology college

Colyer Road, Northfleet
Gravesend, Kent DA11 8BG
Head: John Hassett MA

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College, we wish to offer the following:

The successful candidate will receive training from experienced teachers at Northfleet Technology College supplemented by a number of days provided by Canterbury University.

The successful person must have at least 50% of their degree in the subject of English. They need to be organised, self motivated and able to work independently.

Salary will be £15,113

This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast.

NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees.

We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we would like to hear from you.

Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details. An application form can be obtained from by telephone 01474 533802, fax 01474 536122 or by email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk. Closing Date is Friday the 17th of October

GSE GROUP

HYTHE IMPERIAL HOTEL

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

The GSE Group have exciting plans, for restoring and updating the elegant four-star Hythe Imperial Hotel, which boasts Spa, Golf and Conference facilities.

We require an enthusiastic individual with a proven track record within the industry, to sell and develop the Imperial's potential as a leading conference & event venue, leisure break and destination hotel.

The successful candidate will be sales orientated, highly motivated and committed to success. Excellent salary package offered, including company car and performance related bonus scheme.

Please submit your CV to The General Manager, Hythe Imperial Hotel, Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent CT21 6AE or H6862-GM@accor.com

Closing Date: 3rd October 2008.

The GSE Group are an Equal Opportunities Employer

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

The Marlowe Academy

Stirling Way, Ramsgate, CT12 6NB

We are looking for the ideal candidates who are emotionally literate, committed to inclusion and willing to learn to be a part of the following teams.

Support and Guidance Team
Student Welfare Team

Key Roles will include: Supporting students with physical and emotional /mental health difficulties. Working with subject specialists to develop and support personalised learning programmes. The Role will involve some first aid cover, but training will be given.

Basic Skills Team

Key Roles will include: Teaching small groups of students in basic literacy and numeracy. Contributing to large group teaching as part of a team. Some preparation of teaching materials. Supervising accelerated reading programmes across the school. Level 2 in English and Maths is required. Full training opportunities will be provided.

ASD team

Key Roles will include: Supporting students in the classroom. Working 1:1 with students. Engaging in social activities and programmes. Awareness of the needs of ASD students is required.

We are looking for people who can take initiative and work both independently as well as part of a team. All applications are welcome. Salary equivalent pt 8-12 on Kent Scheme. 14k pro-rata for 40 hours a week term time only. The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced crb check. Please send a copy of your C.V and covering letter to our HR department at Jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk or the address above.
Closing date: 30th September

Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Learner Advisor — Ref: P0131

Full-time/part-time/Job Share position
£11,599 - £17,200 pro rata

This is an exciting opportunity to join the Learner Services team as a Learner Adviser. The successful applicant will work in a front line area supporting existing and prospective learners whilst working with college staff to provide an excellent service. Initial sign-posting to internal and external agencies, good administration and I.T. skills, a flexible approach and the ability to work under pressure are all requisites for this customer focused position.

Personal Tutor — Ref: P0005

(Full-time, Part-time & Fixed-term)
£19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata

We currently have a number of opportunities for full-time and part-time Personal Tutors. As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification. When applying, please state clearly your preferred role.

Departmental Secretary/Administrator — Ref: P0108

Salary: £11,599 to £17,200

The candidate will be able to demonstrate recent, all round experience and knowledge of administration procedures and have excellent organisational and IT skills. Due to the nature of the role the successful candidate will be required to work independently.

Hourly Paid Facilitators — Ref: SE01

Hourly Rate: £8.93 (£9.98 including holiday component)

We are looking to appoint hourly paid Facilitators to work with individuals/groups of learners on curriculum support programmes devised by the curriculum staff and/or CAST Tutors. A clear empathy for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and good communication skills are essential.

Technician in Beauty — Ref: P0559

£11,599 - £17,200

We are looking to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide guidance and support to learners and assists with the running of various Clinics. You will be able to demonstrate good organisational and communication skills and relevant experience within the beauty industry would be advantageous.

Closing date: Wednesday, 8 October 2008

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer

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Hourly Paid Lecturers/Facilitators

Can you make a difference?

Have you ever considered whether your skills and experience are needed by a Further and Higher Education College? Mid-Kent College is actively seeking to recruit hourly paid Lecturers and Facilitators in the following areas:

Lecturers
Hourly Rate: £19.74 - £32.39 (including holiday component)

- Civil Engineering
- Domestic Gas Trainer/Assessor
- IT and Business
- Healthcare
- Psychology
- Electrical Installation
- Assessors for Motor Vehicle Body & Paint
- Mechanical Engineering
- Brickwork
- Catering
- Public Services
- Childcare
- Motor Vehicle

Facilitators
Hourly Rate: £9.98 (including holiday component)
Sessional Facilitators are required to work with and provide assistance to learners and Lecturers. A clear empathy for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and good communication skills are essential.

Work Placement Co-ordinator
Hourly Rate: £9.98 (including holiday component)
We require an hourly paid Work Placement Co-ordinator to assist with the placing, monitoring and assessing of students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in their work placements. For further information please contact the Personnel department on 01634 884511.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer

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To advertise in this section 01303 817040

Kent County Council

Public Rights of Way Officer (Definitive Map Review)

£20,061-£29,920 per annum (Salary dependent on experience and progression through the Career Grade is based on the fulfilment of required competencies)

Maidstone

Kent County Council is seeking to appoint a Public Rights of Way Officer to join the busy Definitive Map Team, based at Maidstone.

With over 670okm of public rights of way, Kent County Council manages the largest network in the country. It also has an excellent national reputation in service delivery, forward thinking and dynamic new initiatives.

You will be responsible for assessing, investigating and promoting applications to add and amend public rights of way in accordance with the relevant legislation. You will be expected to liaise with the public, landowners and solicitors, carry out site inspections/ meetings, historical research and attend Public Inquiries and Magistrates Courts when necessary.

The post carries a high-volume workload so you will have an eye for detail and the ability to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of new technology. You will also be a team player, educated to HND/Degree level or equivalent in a related subject. The post requires a high level of motivation, good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and related countryside access issues along with excellent organisational and communication skills. **Ref: ER/08/0114**

For more information, please call Laura Wilkins on 01622 221517.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904.

Closing date: Midday, 9th October 2008.
Interview date: 14th November 2008.



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NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ

We are seeking to appoint

PASTORAL SUPPORT OFFICER
35 Hours per week (8.15 am to 3.45 p.m.) Term Time Only

We require a Pastoral Support Officer to work with our team in providing pastoral support to ensure high quality learning for all students.

The role will involve

- Running the school inclusion room (an alternative to fixed term exclusion)
- Dealing with parental enquiries through telephone and face-to-face meetings including investigation and mediation.
- Promoting good attendance, attitudes and behaviour at all times
- Assisting with a range of administrative support including support to exclusion, discipline and other student related meetings.

A flexible approach to working and the ability to work as part of a team and under your own initiative are essential. Good communication skills at all levels are essential.

Experience of working with young people in an educational, Youth and Community or similar environment would be an advantage.

We also will be appointing

TEACHERS OF ENGLISH & HISTORY
for January 2009 start

Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and the name of two referees to the Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ or email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
Closing date for applications: 2 October 2008

IMPROVING PROSPECTS. ACHIEVING RESULTS

west kent college

We are one of the most successful colleges in the south east region providing further and higher education. We are committed to improving the diversity of our staff by offering a wide range of opportunities including apprenticeships, flexible working and full and part-time positions. Why not look at what we can offer you.

Assessor Academy Coordinator

£24,187 - £27,223 pa
Fixed Term 2 Years
30 hours per week, 52 weeks per year

Playing a leading role in our successful college, you will be responsible for the set up and management of the South East Assessor Academy, a programme designed to recruit, train and develop an outstanding assessing team within the region.

You will also work closely with the Adult and HE department to identify appropriate training methods. In addition, you will act as a personal tutor to all our students, making sure that their academic and pastoral wellbeing is in good hands.

A graduate in a relevant field, you will have a good background in education and training delivery and also possess sound administrative and organisation skills. GCSE or equivalent Maths and English are both essential for this rewarding role.

The benefits in joining us are immense: generous annual leave; flexible working hours; lots of support including an on-site nursery; final salary pension; Health & Fitness suite and more.

For further details, a job description and an application form, please contact the HR department on 01732 376511, email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk or apply online at www.wkc.ac.uk

Closing date: 12 Noon Thursday 9th October 2008.

Action for Business College · Brook Street • Tonbridge • Kent TN9 2PW · Investor in People

FORT PITT GRAMMAR SCHOOL
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS COLLEGE
Fort Pitt Hill, Chatham, Kent ME4 6TJ
Tel: 01634 842359 Fax: 01634 817386
Email: office@fortpitt.medway.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Julia M Bell, BA (Hons)
Age range 11-18 (6 f.e.) NOR 920 girls 187 in Sixth Form

SENIOR IT TECHNICIAN / WEB DEVELOPER

Full-time position - 37 hours per week
N J C Points 15-24 (£15,470 - £20,099 - pay award pending)
Position on scale according to age and experience

The school wishes to appoint a dynamic Senior IT Technician to become part of our busy support team. Applicants should have a sound working knowledge of computer hardware, software and audio/visual equipment, possess good trouble-shooting skills and have previous experience of web design and implementation. Previous experience of RM Community Connect 3 would be an advantage.

Good communication and organisational skills, a conscientious work ethic, and the ability to build and maintain positive relationships, with both staff and pupils, are essential.

ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN

Term Time only - 37 hours per week
NJC Points 7-21 (£12,291 - £18,430 – pay award pending); pro rata to £10,035 - £15,047 for Term Time only
Position on scale according to age and experience

We require, as soon as possible, an enthusiastic technician with an interest in the visual arts to join a successful Art, Design and Technology Department.

The successful candidate will be well organised, able to work on their own initiative and willing to tackle a wide range of practical activities including basic maintenance of equipment, supporting teaching and learning, preparing materials and carrying out risk assessments. An ability to work as part of a team is essential.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to satisfactory references and an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure. Please note that this school is a designated non-smoking area.

Fort Pitt is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Please note that Fort Pitt operates a no smoking policy throughout the buildings and site.

If you believe that you have the skills and characteristics necessary for either of these posts then please apply by letter to the P.A. to the Headteacher, enclosing a CV and the names of two referees, by 1st October 2008.

Further details including job descriptions may be accessed from the Fort Pitt website (www.fortpitt.medway.sch.uk).

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Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.
Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Teachers Needed
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Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Co-ordinator of Key Skills (to become Functional Skills) Across the Faculty of Engineering and Construction 08/138
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

Lecturer Mechanical Engineering 05/81
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer Key Skills – Catering & Hospitality 06/149
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer - Computer Games and Interactive Media 08/54
18.5 hours per week, salary range £17,816 – £25,545 pro rata per annum

Pre 16 Tutor 07/12
37 hrs per week salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum.
Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010

Supply Lecturers required in the following areas:
- First Aid S/FA
- Drama S/DRAMA
- Catering & Hospitality S/C&H
- Public Services S/PS
- Early Years S/EY
- Health & Social Care S/HSC

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 – £25,545 pro rata per annum

Web Systems Developer 08/142
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Network Application Technician (Advanced) ATA
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Service Desk Technician Level 2 SDT2
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 per annum

HR Advisor 08/119
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Administrative Assistant – College Redevelopment 08/120
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator Public Services 08/140
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.
Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Curriculum Support Assistant within Public Services and Security 08/139
18.5 hrs per week, 40 weeks term time.
Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Catering Assistant 08/141
25 hrs per week, 36 weeks term time.
Salary £11,801 pro rata per annum

Supply Computing Support Technicians S/CST
Various hours available, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Supply Pre 16 Learning Support S/Pre 16/LS
Various hours available, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Supply NVQ Assessors are required in the following areas:
- Cleaning S/ASS/CLE
- Security S/ASS/SEC
- Health & Social Care (CYP) S/ASS/HSC

Various hours available, salary range from £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 13th October 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:
- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

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Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE
Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195
Website:www.ggsg.org.uk
email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk

Science

TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY/ YEAR 7 HISTORY

Required as soon as possible (Maternity Cover)
Main Professional Grade

This is an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic and committed Geographer to join this very successful 11-18 selective girls' school with boys in the Sixth Form. We are looking to appoint a suitably qualified colleague to teach Key Stage 3 Geography and History to Year 7 students.

The School has a high profile for achievement both locally and nationally. There is also plenty of scope to be involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

Academic standards are exceptionally high (Ofsted 2008) and the School has acquired Investor in People and Investor in Careers status. We were identified as one of the particularly successful schools in the HMI Chief Inspector's Report for 2002-03 and we have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004.

Application forms and further details are available from the Headteacher's Personal Assistant, Mrs M Tong Ralphs. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of **Mrs E Wilson**, Headteacher no later than

Wednesday 8th October 2008

This is a Non Smoking school.

achievement employability experience development

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Learning Support – Administration, Finance and Key Skills 08/93
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 13th October 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:
- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

South East Health Ltd is a dynamic, growing organisation, commissioned by several Primary Care Trusts in Kent and Sussex to deliver an impressive range of unscheduled care services to a resident population base of around 2.2 million.

In order to meet the needs of patients we require experienced nurses to join the following nursing teams:

NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Nurses with minor illness/injury experience are required to work alongside our GP workforce at William Harvey Hospital, Ashford for daytime and out-of-hours shifts as part of our A&E Front Ending Project.

We also require experienced minor illness nurses to work within our Out of Hours clinical bases within East Kent including Sittingbourne and the Isle of Sheppey. Nurses will provide assessment and treatment for patients with urgent care needs, supported by PGD's and prescribing skills where appropriate.

NURSE ADVISORS

Telephone Nurse Advisors are the first point of clinical contact for patients and we are currently recruiting for our Ashford Call Centre. Using clinical knowledge and skills alongside triage protocols you will decide the most appropriate pathway of care for patients and their symptoms.

STAN (SINGLE TELEPHONE ACCESS NUMBER)

The STAN service has been commissioned by PCT's and is staffed by a team of experienced nurses and skilled support staff. We require nurses to join our team working between 8am and 8pm at our Ashford Call Centre to help plan patient care alongside GP's ensuring appropriate transfers of care for patients.

For an application pack or an informal discussion with the locality manager please contact Caroline Weetch, HR Assistant on 01732 376092 or e-mail caroline.weetch@sehnp.nhs.uk

Closing date for receipt of application: 10th October 2008

South East Health is an equal opportunities employer.



Premier Occupational Healthcare

ATTENTION ALL NURSES

Premier Occupational Healthcare continues to experience an exciting period of growth. As a result we are seeking to recruit into the following roles to join our existing Occupational Health team:

RGNs and OH advisers

Hours : Full and part time

• Both roles are based in Folkestone but do require the ability to travel.
• Self Motivation • Professionalism
• Excellent communication and IT skills

For an on-line application form please e.mail a covering letter plus your CV to jan.pethick@premierohc.co.uk

Alternatively if you do not have access to a computer, please send your CV and covering letter to:

Jan Pethick
Premier Occupational Healthcare, Premier House, Shearway Business Park, Pent Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4RJ
Please visit our website: www.premierohc.co.uk

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Spires Academy

Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD

NOR: 340

Principal: Mr Ian Johnson

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

Director of Learning for Mathematics

MPS +TLR - £10,303

Following the promotion of the previous post holder to a senior management position, we will be appointing his permanent replacement from 1st January 2009.

This is an exciting opportunity for an ambitious and talented colleague to join our Team. Building upon the success of the Montgomery School during its final years, Spires had a very good first year. Year 7 numbers have doubled, GCSE results with English and Maths shot up from 18% to 32%, and there is a real sense of optimism in our community, a 'can do' mentality.

Maths results last year were the best of the core subjects, testimony to the quality of teaching and organisation of the curriculum. There is, however, real potential for improvement as well as the opportunity to teach at Sixth Form level through our link with the Marlowe Academy.

Potential candidates are encouraged to visit the school as part of the application process.

Please email our Personnel Manager, Marion Wigington, on m.wigington@spiresacademy.com for further details of how to apply.

Closing date: 10.00am on Friday 10th October
Interviews scheduled for the following week.

http://www.spiresacademy.com

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Your Skills **Our Vision**

NHS
Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

Why not join us?

STAFF BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Final salary pension scheme
- Occupational sickness benefit
- Lease car scheme for eligible staff
- Occupational health service
- Childcare
- Enhanced maternity pay
- Enhanced paternity pay
- Enhanced adoption pay
- Flexible Working Policies
- Extensive Training Programs
- Long service awards
- In-house discounts & external benefits

SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL

Medical Receptionist/Administrator x 2
Salary: Band 2 £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Location: Sittingbourne, Kent
Hours: 30
Ref: 767-ECS487
Closing date: 1/10/08

Receptionist & Team Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Broadstairs, Kent
Hours: 30
Ref: 767-ECC495
Closing date: 1/10/08

Receptionist
Salary: Band 2 £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Location: Tenterden, Kent
Hours: 30
Ref: 767-ECC485
Closing date: 2/10/08

Receptionist
Salary: Band 2 £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Location: Ashford Community Offices
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECC486
Closing date: 2/10/08

Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Canterbury
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECS488
Closing date: 2/10/08

Receptionist
Salary: Band 2 £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Location: Ashford
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECS489
Closing date: 16/10/08

NHS Emergency Planning Business Manager
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Eureka Park
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH152
Closing date: 3/10/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Sexual Health Nurse
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: The Gate Clinic, Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH134
Closing date: 1/10/08

First Contact Nurse Practioner
Salary: Band 7 £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Location: Sheppey Community Hospital
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH148
Closing date: 1/10/08

Intermediate Care Nurse
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: Folkestone
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC490
Closing date: 1/10/08

First Contact Nurse Practioner
Salary: Band 7 £29,091 - £38,352
Hours: 37.5
Location: Sittingbourne Memorial Hospital
Ref: 767-ASH149
Closing date: 1/10/08

Young Peoples Sexual Health Outreach Nurse
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: Vicarage Lane Clinic
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH141
Closing date: 2/10/08

Young Peoples Sexual Health Outreach Nurse
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: College Road Clinic
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH142
Closing date: 2/10/08

Young Peoples Sexual Health Outreach Nurse
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone Health Centre
Ref: 767-ASH143
Closing date: 2/10/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Dietitian
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Buckland Hospital
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH147
Closing date: 1/10/08

Dietitian
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH150
Closing date: 1/10/08

Dietitian
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: William Harvey Hospital + Buckland Hospital
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ASH146
Closing date: 1/10/08

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Pharmacy Technician - Practice Support
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Protea House
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECS454
Closing date: 2/10/08

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

HEN Team Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital
Hours: 15
Ref: 767-ECS500
Closing date: 1/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Sheppey Community Hospital
Hours: 25
Ref: 767---ASH135
Closing date: 2/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Canterbury Coastal
Hours: 25
Ref: 767-ASH136
Closing date: 2/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: College Road Clinic
Hours: 25
Ref: 767-ASH137
Closing date: 2/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Dover Health Centre
Hours: 25
Ref: 767-ASH138
Closing date: 2/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Folkestone Health Centre
Hours: 25
Ref: 767-ASH139
Closing date: 2/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: College Road Clinic
Hours: 25
Ref: 767-ASH137
Closing date: 2/10/08

Sexual Health Outreach Health Care Assistant
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Vicarage Lane Clinic
Hours: 25
Ref: 767-ASH140
Closing date: 2/10/08

For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk

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Administrative Assistant - College Redevelopment

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,364 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/120
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

ADMINISTRATOR /SALES SUPPORT

Edenbridge
Salary: tba
Westerham Press are looking to recruit a friendly and confident individual to fill this temporary contract covering maternity leave. (Anticipated 12 months) The successful candidate must have excellent organisational skills and be able to communicate at all levels with a confident telephone manner. Must be computer literate with experience of Microsoft Office, in particular Word, Excel and Outlook. Duties will include providing administration support to the Sales Team and the Office Manager. This is a varied role performing general tasks, typing, filing and assistance to ensure compliance with our ISO14001 standard and Health & Safety commitments. The hours of work are Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm. If this sounds like the position for you, please send your CV to: michelle.dowling@stiveswesterham.com Michelle Dowling, St Ives Westerham Press, Westerham House, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6EL.
To apply/more information:
Michelle Dowling,
St Ives Westerham Press Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email michelle.dowling@stivesweserham.com

Assistant Buyer

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: Negotiable, dependent upon experience
Due to expansion, food wholesalers require an Assistant Buyer, to assist with all aspects of purchasing, stock control and data inputting. Please apply in writing or by email with CV and covering letter.
To apply/more information:
Georgina Davis
Turner Fine Foods
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email georgina@turnersfinefoods.co.uk

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

Hythe
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 3rd October 2008
The GSE Group have exciting plans, for restoring and updating the elegant four-star Hythe Imperial Hotel, which boasts Spa, Golf and Conference facilities. We require an enthusiastic individual with a proven track record within the industry, to sell and develop the Imperial's potential as a leading conference & event venue, leisure break and destination hotel. The successful candidate will be sales orientated, highly motivated and committed to success. Excellent salary package offered, including company car and performance related bonus scheme. Please submit your CV to The General Manager, Hythe Imperial Hotel, Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent CT21 6AE.
To apply/more information:
The General Manager
Hythe Imperial Hotel and Spa
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant within Health, Public Services and Care

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week, 38 weeks term time. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/131
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant within the Faculty of ICT/Retail and Commercial/ Leisure and Tourism/ Catering/Business and Law

Canterbury
Salary: £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week., 38 weeks per year term time. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/66
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Dental Receptionist

Maidstone
Salary: tba
DENTAL RECEPTIONIST required.
To apply/more information:
Nicola - Marden Dental Surgery
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Tel: 07736648406
Email
mardentsurg@btopenworld.com

Departmental Secretary/ Administrator

Medway
Salary: Salary: £11,599 to £17,200
Closing Date: 8th Oct 08
The candidate will be able to demonstrate recent, all round experience and knowledge of administration procedures and have excellent organisational and IT skills. Due to the nature of the role the successful candidate will be required to work independently.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0108
Tel: 01634 845402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

HR Advisor

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week,
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/119
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Service Desk Technician Level 2

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,364 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: SDT2
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

SERVICE SUPPORT DESK OPERATORS

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 20 October 2008.
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Babcock Defence Services,
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 23C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk

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01303 817040

Catering, Hospitality

Assistant Head Chef

Canterbury
Salary: £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: RC01
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Catering Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: £11,801 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
16 hours per week. 36 weeks term time. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: CA6
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Part Time Bar Person

Lydd
Salary: TBA
Lydd Golf Club require a Part Time Bar Person Minimum 25 hours a week. Must be over 18. All shifts required including weekends Bar experience preferred. We also require an Assistant Cook Various shifts including weekends Please call Keith on 01797 320808
To apply/more information:
Keith
Lydd London Ashford Airport
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01797 320808
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Child Care

Placement Visitor within Early Years/ Playwork

Canterbury
Salary: £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
19 hours per week, 38 weeks term time. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 04/116
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

WINDOW SERVICE ENGINEER

Sittingbourne
Salary: tba
Applicants should be experienced in the window industry; preferably with a history of installation work (the position may also involve some survey work). This is a full time long term position in a family run company. Salary Negotiable.
To apply/more information:
Kent Trade Frames
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 431600
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Customer Service, Call Centre

Call Allocator

Ashford
Salary: tba
We require a full time Call Allocator for our service centre. Hours:8.30am-5.30pm Monday-Friday, Sat 8.30-12pm on a rota. Good salary and benefits, including health care. C.V's to: Mr Pluckrose, Ashbridge Domestic Appliances, Unit 2, Bridge Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1BB.
To apply/more information:
Mr Pluckrose
Ashbridge Domestic Appliances
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Visitor Services Assistant - 3 posts

Sevenoaks
Salary: Post 1: £15,243 pa.- Post 2: £8,561 pa.
Closing Date: 10 October 2008
Bedgebury Post 1: £15,243 pa. Full time rostered over a seven day period and working alternate weekends and some evenings. Post 2: £8,561 pa. Annualised hours with flexible working arrangement of about 1092 hours per year – average of 21 per week – rostered to suit the needs of the Visitors Services team. You may have some weeks off, or alternatively work five days a week by prior arrangement. Evening and weekend work will be required. All posts are fixed term for two years, which may be extended or made permanent. You'll assist Bedgebury's Visitor Services team in providing a first class service to the public by welcoming visitors, assisting the visitor information centre and through light cleaning and maintenance. Ideally you'll have experience of working in a customer focussed tourism/recreation environment, cash handling and excellent customer care skills. Applicants with relevant skills in other areas eg retail, general maintenance or cleaning will be considered. You'll have confidence dealing with the public and be able to provide clear and factual information. You must also demonstrate the ability to work well as part of a team. A first aid qualification would be useful, although training can be provided. Vetting for 'Disclosure' via the Criminal Records Bureau is required for all posts. Benefits include a Civil Service Pension or stakeholder pension scheme, 25 days annual leave and flexible working options. To apply, visit our website at the address below or email recruitment@forestry.gsi.gov.uk Alternatively, write to Shireen West, HR Services, 231 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh EH12 7AT. Please note all applications must be accompanied by a Forestry Commission application form. Please quote ref: HR89/94. No recruitment agencies please. The Forestry Commission is committed to equality of opportunity and welcomes applications from all age groups and sectors of the community. www.forestry.gov.uk/vacancies.
To apply/more information:
Forestry Commision
Quoting Job Ref: HR89/94
Email
recruitment@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Domestic

Cleaners required

Medway
Salary: tba
Local Cleaning Company seeks presentable, articulate staff with previous office cleaning experience for long term relationship. We can promise good rates of pay, 4 wks holidays pa, uniform and full training. Potential for promotion. Call us now on 01634 722922
To apply/more information:
Mitchem Cleaning Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 722922
Email info@jobsforkent.co.uk

Fueller/Shunter/ Cleaner

Gillingham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 3rd Oct 08
There is a vacancy for and Evening Fueller/Shunter/Cleaner to be based at our Gillingham Depot, reporting directly to the Assistant Engineering Manager. Activities will inclue: *Fuelling, Shunting, Oils, waters and cleaning a fleeti of buses in preparation for the following days use. General yard duties. Personal qualities should include: *High quality vehicle cleanliness and presentation standards. *Flexible approach to hours or work - 17.00 to 01.00 Monday to Friday covering five days on a 38 hours per week. * Self Motivated. *Adherence with all H&S matters. *Car licence essential, PCV holders preferred as some vehicle change overs may be required, although training will be provided for NPCV holders. To apply, please send your CV and covering letter to Mr A Henry, District Engineering Manager, Arriva Southern Counties, Nelson Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4LN.
To apply/more information:
Arriva Southern Counties
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Full Time Cleaner

Canterbury
Salary: £6.13 per hour
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/21
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Mobile Office/ Public Convenience Cleaners x2

Sevenoaks
Salary: £15,027 p.a. to £18,316 p.a. rising to £19,442 p.a.
Closing Date: 29th September 2008
plus a final salary contributory pension scheme Your duties will involve the daily cleaning of offices and public conveniences to a specified standard. This will include WC's, basins & urinals, as well as walls, floors, ceilings etc and the removal of graffiti. You will have use of a Council van to carry out your duties, and be expected to work on a rota basis which includes early and late shifts including Saturday and Sunday working Previous applicants need not apply and for an informal discussion about these posts, please contact John Cox, Cleansing Manager on 01959 567375. Our staff benefits package includes, a final salary contributory pension scheme, flexible annual leave and working arrangements, free centre membership of Sencio's Leisure Centres in the District, a childcare vouchers scheme and excellent training and development opportunities. To apply on-line please visit our website @ www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/jobs You may also contact the Human Resources Team for an Information pack and application form by calling the recruitment voicemail on 01732 227102 (24 hours) or by e-mailing recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk quoting the reference number.
To apply/more information:
Sevenoaks District Council
Quoting Job Ref: CS.906
Tel: 01732 227102
Email
recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Street Sweeper/Driver

Sevenoaks
Salary: £15,027 p.a. to £18,316 p.a. rising to £19,442 p.a.
Closing Date: 29th September 2008
with exceptional performance (pay award pending) plus a final salary contributory pension scheme You will need to be physically capable of carrying out the duties of the post, presentable in appearance and prepared to work as part of a team. You will be working a 37 hour week and you must hold a driving licence that allows you to drive a vehicle up to 7.5 tonnes. Mobile Office.
To apply/more information:
Sevenoaks District Council
Quoting Job Ref: CS.807
Tel: 01732 227102
Email
recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Domestic Trades

MULTI SKILLED CARPENTER

Ashford
Salary: Self Employed
MULTI SKILLED CARPENTER required (Self Employed) Must have experience and be able to work alone in professional manner to high standards. The applicant must also have own transport and willing to travel (sometimes required to stay away). Contact Andy Fuller on 07710 261616 or email: andy@bespokedevelopments.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Andy Fuller
ASF Bespoke Development Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07710 261616
Email andy@bespokedevelopments.co.uk

Night Cleaners

Canterbury
Salary: £6.13 per hour
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
20 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/22
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

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www.kent-teach.com

ART, DESIGN and TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN

Chatham
Salary: NJC Points 7-21 (£12,291 - £18,430 – pay award pending); pro rata to £10,035 - £15,047 for Term Time only
Closing Date: 1st October 2008
ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN Term Time only - 37 hours per week NJC Points 7-21 (£12,291 - £18,430 – pay award pending); pro rata to £10,035 - £15,047 for Term Time only Position on scale according to age and experience We require, as soon as possible, an enthusiastic technician with an interest in the visual arts to join a successful Art, Design and Technology Department. The successful candidate will be well organised, able to work on their own initiative and willing to tackle a wide range of practical activities including basic maintenance of equipment, supporting teaching and learning, preparing materials and carrying out risk assessments. An ability to work as part of a team is essential. Any offer of appointment will be subject to satisfactory references and an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure. Please note that this school is a designated non-smoking area. Fort Pitt is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Please note that Fort Pitt operates a no smoking policy throughout the buildings and site. If you believe that you have the skills and characteristics necessary for either of these posts then please apply by letter to the P.A. to the Headteacher, enclosing a CV and the names of two referees, by 1st October 2008. Further details including job descriptions may be accessed from the Fort Pitt website (www.fortpitt.medway.sch.uk).
To apply/more information:
P.A. to the Headteacher
Fort Pitt Grammar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 842359
Email
office@fortpitt.medway.sch.uk

ASD team

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 30th September
We are looking for the ideal candidates who are emotionally literate, committed to inclusion and willing to learn to be a part of the following teams. We are looking for people who can take initiative and work both independently as well as part of a team. All applications are welcome. Salary equivalent pt 8-12 on Kent Scheme. 14k pro-rata for 40 hours a week term time only. The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced crb check. Please send a copy of your C.V and covering letter to our HR department at Jennifersspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk or the address above.
Closing Date: 30th September
To apply/more information:
HR department
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Jennifersspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Assessor Academy Coordinator

Tonbridge
Salary: £24,187 - £27,223 pa
Closing Date: 9th October 2008
Playing a leading role in our successful college, you will be responsible for the set up and management of the South East Assessor Academy, a programme designed to recruit, train and develop an outstanding assessing team within the region. You will also work closely with the Adult and HE department to identify appropriate training methods. In addition, you will act as a personal tutor to all our students, making sure that their academic and pastoral wellbeing is in good hands. A graduate in a relevant field, you will have a good background in education and training delivery and also possess sound administrative and organisation skills. GCSE or equivalent Maths and English are both essential for this rewarding role. The benefits in joining us are immense: generous annual leave; flexible working hours; lots of support including an on-site nursery; final salary pension; Health & Fitness suite and more.
To apply/more information:
West Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 376511,
Email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

Basic Skills Team

Ramsgate
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 30th September
We are looking for the ideal candidates who are emotionally literate, committed to inclusion and willing to learn to be a part of the following teams. Key Roles will include: Teaching small groups of students in basic literacy and numeracy. Contributing to large group teaching as part of a team. Some preparation of teaching materials. Supervising accelerated reading programmes across the school. Level 2 in English and Maths is required. Full training opportunities will be provided. We are looking for people who can take initiative and work both independently as well as part of a team. All applications are welcome. Salary equivalent pt 8-12 on Kent Scheme. 14k pro-rata for 40 hours a week term time only. The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced crb check. Please send a copy of your C.V and covering letter to our HR department at Jennifersspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk or the address above.
To apply/more information:
HR department
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Jennifersspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Catering Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: Salary £11,801 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
25 hrs per week, 36 weeks term time.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/141
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Coordinator of IMI and CandG Full time Automotive Engineering Programmes

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/132
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Coordinator of WBL and other Part-time Motor Vehicle programmes including IMI ATA

Canterbury

Salary: Salary starting from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: CO106
Tel: 01227 811282 (24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant within Public Services and Security

Canterbury

Salary: Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week, 40 weeks term time.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/139
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Director of Learning for Mathematics

Canterbury

Salary: MPS +TLR - £10,303
Closing Date: 10.00am on Friday 10th October
Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts Director of Learning for Mathematics MPS +TLR - 10,303 Following the promotion of the previous post holder to a senior management position, we will be appointing his permanent replacement from 1st January 2009. This is an exciting opportunity for an ambitious and talented colleague to join our Team. Building upon the success of the Montgomery School during its final years, Spires had a very good first year. Year 7 numbers have doubled, GCSE results with English and Maths shot up from 18% to 32%, and there is a real sense of optimism in our community, a 'can do' mentality. Maths results last year were the best of the core subjects, testimony to the quality of teaching and organisation of the curriculum. There is, however, real potential for improvement as well as the opportunity to teach at Sixth Form level through our link with the Marlowe Academy. Potential candidates are encouraged to visit the school as part of the application process. Please email our Personnel Manager, Marion Wigington, on m.wigington@spiresacademy.com for further details of how to apply. **Closing Date**: 10.00am on Friday 10th October Interviews scheduled for the following week.
http://www.spiresacademy.com
To apply/more information:
Marion Wigington,
Spires Academy
Quoting Job Ref: Kos
Email info@jobsforkent.co.uk

Facilitators

Maidstone

Salary: Hourly Rate: £9.98 (including holiday component) Sessional Facilitators are required to work with and provide assistance to learners and Lecturers. A clear empathy for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and good communication skills are essential.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME

Gravesend

Salary: Salary will be £15,113
Closing Date: 17th of October In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College, we wish to offer the following: Trainee placement on the Graduate Teacher Programme in English. The successful candidate will receive training from experienced teachers at Northfleet Technology College supplemented by a number of days provided by Canterbury University. The successful person must have at least 50% of their degree in the subject of English. They need to be organised, self motivated and able to work independently. Salary will be £15,113 This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast. NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees. We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we would like to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details. An application form can be obtained from by telephone 01474 533802, fax 01474 536122 or by email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk.
To apply/more information:
Northfleet Technology College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533802
Email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk

Head of Faculty Higher Education

Canterbury

Salary: Salary starting from £40,821 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/112
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Hourly Paid Facilitators

Medway

Salary: Hourly Rate: £8.93 (£9.98 including holiday component)
Closing Date: 8th Oct 08
We are looking to appoint hourly paid Facilitators to work with individuals/groups of learners on curriculum support programmes devised by the curriculum staff and/or CAST Tutors. A clear empathy for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and good communication skills are essential.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE01
Tel: 01634 845402
Email
applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturers/ Facilitators

Maidstone

Salary: Hourly Rate: £19.74 - £32.39 (including holiday component).
• Civil Engineering • Mechanical Engineering • Domestic Gas Trainer/Assessor • Brickwork • IT and Business • Catering • Healthcare • Public Services • Psychology • Childcare • Electrical Installation • Motor Vehicle • Assessors for Motor Vehicle Body & Paint Facilitators Hourly Rate: £9.98 (including holiday component) Sessional Facilitators are required to work with and provide assistance to learners and Lecturers. A clear empathy for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and good communication skills are essential.
To apply/more information:
Personnel department
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk.

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01303 817040

International Manager

Canterbury

Salary: Starting from £32,808 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/111
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lab Technician (Resource Assistant)

Canterbury

Salary: £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: RA18
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Learner Advisor

Medway

Salary: £11,599 - £17,200 pro rata
Closing Date: 8 October 2008
This is an exciting opportunity to join the Learner Services team as a Learner Adviser. The successful applicant will work in a front line area supporting existing and prospective learners whilst working with college staff to provide an excellent service. Initial sign-posting to internal and external agencies, good administration and I.T. skills, a flexible approach and the ability to work under pressure are all requisites for this customer focused position.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0131
Tel: 0800 783 1144
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Learning Resources Co-ordinator

Broadstairs

Salary: £15,260 - £16,889 (Pay Award Pending)
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 3rd October 2008
34 hours per week - Term Time Only. The Learning Resources Co-ordinator will be responsible for developing, maintaining and managing the high quality multi-resourced Learning Resources of the school, comprising the Learning Resources Centre (LRC) and the Library. In addition, the co-ordinator will support and assist in the development and production of learning resources in the LRC, and support colleagues to develop their own skills in the production of such age and ability appropriate materials required to support acquisition of learning, both class based, and in appropriate complementary activities such as inter-active story telling. Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk. Please note that CV's will not be considered. Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 3rd October 2008.
To apply/more information:
Personnel
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: LRC
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills

Canterbury

Salary: salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/93
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer - Computer Games and Interactive Media

Canterbury

Salary: salary range £17,816 – £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hours per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/54
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills

Isle of Sheppey

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post ref number. Staff benefits include Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme, Generous Holiday Allowance, Proximity to Mainbus/Train Stations, Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/73
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/04
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based

Canterbury

Salary: range from £17,816-£25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
Temporary post to cover maternity leave. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/133
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Finance

Isle of Sheppey

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
7.4 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the Post reference. Staff benefits include Pensions and Life Assurance, Generous Holiday Allowance, Proximity to Mainbus/Train Stations & staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/136
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Health and Social Care

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: L90
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Health and Social Care

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 05/39
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Independent Living and Leisure Skills

Canterbury

Salary: range £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
9.25 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/135
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Independent Living and Leisure Skills

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 00/33
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Key Skills - Catering and Hospitality

Canterbury

Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/149
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Mechanical Engineering

Canterbury

Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 05/81
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Performing Arts - Drama

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/100
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Public Services

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/31
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

MIDDAY SUPERVISORS

Hythe

Salary: tba
Closing Date: 1st October 2008
We currently have vacancies for Midday Supervisors at our School to work for 11/4 hours per day - 5 days a week. We are looking for people to join our busy team which involves our exciting lunchtime "Active Play" project. If you feel that this could be you, please contact the school for further information, and to arrange an appointment to visit the school.
To apply/more information:
St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 266578
Email headteacher@
st-augustines-hythe.kent.sch.uk

PASTORAL SUPPORT MANAGER

Ashford

Salary: tba
Closing Date: 3rd October 2008
Do you feel you have a gift and proven experience working with adolescent teenagers? Can you engage well with them and support them in their journey through school offering them the advice and guidance that will ensure they are successful learners? We require a person to uphold our Christian values and work in our community structure pastorally managing up to 240 young people. Some of these youngsters find disciplined school life challenging and need the help and care to enable them to succeed. If you feel you have the right qualities and can make a significant difference to our students' lives we would like to hear from you. Our school comprises of 5 communities with an attached PSM. Please contact Samantha Sullivan (HR Officer) on 01233 623465 (extension 260) to request a detailed job description and application form or if you wish to discuss the role with the Team Leader for the PSM's. Remember, experience of schools and teenagers is essential. This would be a great job for someone thinking of teaching as a career.
To apply/more information:
Samantha Sullivan
Ashford Christ Church
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 623465
(extension 260)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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PASTORAL SUPPORT OFFICER

Gravesend

Salary: tba
Closing Date: 2 October 2008
35 Hours per week (8.15 am to 3.45 p.m.) Term Time Only We require a Pastoral Support Officer to work with our team in providing pastoral support to ensure high quality learning for all students. The role will involve • Running the school inclusion room (an alternative to fixed term exclusion) • Dealing with parental enquiries through telephone and face-to-face meetings including investigation and mediation. • Promoting good attendance, attitudes and behaviour at all times • Assisting with a range of administrative support including support to exclusion, discipline and other student related meetings. A flexible approach to working and the ability to work as part of a team and under your own initiative are essential. Good communication skills at all levels are essential. Experience of working with young people in an educational, Youth and Community or similar environment would be an advantage. Please submit full CV giving details of previous experience and the name of two referees to the Mrs S Chisholm, Personnel Administrator at Northfleet School for Girls, Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ.
To apply/more information:
Mrs S Chisholm
Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email personnel@
northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Personal Tutor

Medway

Salary: £19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata
Closing Date: 8th Oct 08
We currently have a number of opportunities for full-time and part-time Personal Tutors. As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification. When applying, please state clearly your preferred role..
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0005
Tel: 01634 845402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Pre 16 Tutor

Canterbury

Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum.
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/12
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Project Coordinator

Canterbury

Salary: £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/117
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Resource Assistant Animal Care and Land Based

Canterbury

Salary: £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 04/98
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
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applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Resource Assistant/ Work Placement Organiser for Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: RA17
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Section Manager - Automotive Engineering

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £32,808 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/70
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Section Manager - Sports, Leisure, Travel and Tourism

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £32,808 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/27
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Section Manager Construction Craft

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £32,808 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
37 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/12
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

SENIOR IT TECHNICIAN / WEB DEVELOPER

Chatham
Salary: N J C Points 15-24 (£15,470 - £20,099 - pay award pending)
Closing Date: 1st October 2008
SENIOR IT TECHNICIAN / WEB DEVELOPER Full-time position - 37 hours per week N J C Points 15-24 (£15,470 - £20,099 - pay award pending) Position on scale according to age and experience The school wishes to appoint a dynamic Senior IT Technician to become part of our busy support team. Applicants should have a sound working knowledge of computer hardware, software and audio/visual equipment, possess good trouble-shooting skills and have previous experience of web design and implementation. Previous experience of RM Community Connect 3 would be an advantage. Good communication and organisational skills, a conscientious work ethic, and the ability to build and maintain positive relationships, with both staff and pupils, are essential. Any offer of appointment will be subject to satisfactory references and an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure. Please note that this school is a designated non-smoking area. Fort Pitt is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Please note that Fort Pitt operates a no smoking policy throughout the buildings and site. If you believe that you have the skills and characteristics necessary for either of these posts then please apply by letter to the P.A. to the Headteacher, enclosing a CV and the names of two referees, by 1st October 2008. Further details including job descriptions may be accessed from the Fort Pitt website (www.fortpitt.medway.sch.uk).
To apply/more information:
P.A. to the Headteacher,
Fort Pitt Grammar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel:
office@fortpitt.medway.sch.uk
Email 01634 842359

Supply Computing Support Technicians

Canterbury
Salary: £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
Various hours available.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/CST
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Supply Learning Support in Leisure and Tourism

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: Salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
Various hours available. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/LS/LT
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Learning Support in Supported Learning

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
Various hours available. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/LS/SL
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Lecturer in Administration and Office Skills Level 2 or 3

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: Salary range £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
Various hours available. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/AOS
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Supply Lecturer in Bookkeeping and Accounting

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
Various hours available. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/BKA
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Lecturers

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 – £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
required in the following areas: First Aid S/FA Drama S/DRAMA Catering & Hospitality S/C&H Public Services S/PS Early Years S/EY Health & Social Care S/HSC.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Lecturers

Canterbury
Salary: Salary range £17,816-£25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
Required in the following areas: Sport, Computing, Hairdressing, Drama & Dance. Various hours available. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme. Sport Job Ref: S/SPO, Computing Job Ref: S/COM, Hairdressing Job Ref: S/HAIR, Drama Job Ref: S/DRA, Dance Job Ref: S/DAN.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors

Canterbury
Salary: £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13th October 2008
Various hours available
Cleaning S/ASS/CLE Security S/ASS/SEC Health & Social Care (CYP) S/ASS/HSC.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Supply Pre 16 Learning Support S/Pre

Canterbury
Salary: £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
Various hours available
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 16/LS
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Support and Guidance Team Student Welfare Team

Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 30th September
We are looking for the ideal candidates who are emotionally literate, committed to inclusion and willing to learn to be a part of the following teams. Support and Guidance Team Student Welfare Team Key Roles will include: Supporting students with physical and emotional /mental health difficulties. Working with subject specialists to develop and support personalised learning programmes. The Role will involve some first aid cover, but training will be given. We are looking for people who can take initiative and work both independently as well as part of a team. All applications are welcome. Salary equivalent pt 8-12 on Kent Scheme. 14k pro-rata for 40 hours a week term time only. The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced crb check. Please send a copy of your C.V and covering letter to our HR department at Jennifersspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk or the address above.
To apply/more information:
HR department
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Jennifersspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Team Leader Vacancy

Ramsgate
Salary: Salary Leadership Scale L13 - L14
Closing Date: Friday 10th October 2008
Now in its fourth year, Kent's first Academy continues to challenge traditional approaches and to drive up standards - over twenty students have now gone on to university and last year's 5A*-C GCSE figure topped 50%. Real progress has been made with the 2011 National Challenge, but we believe that the creation of this Leadership Team post is crucial to our continued success. The successful candidate will at least have: • relevant middle leader experience; • a background in Mathematics; • energy, drive, commitment and ambition; • and excellent communication skills. Jenny Spooner, our Personnel Manager, is administering the appointment process. Please email her for details at Jennifer.spooner@marloweacademy.co.uk, as well as the chance to tour the Academy with our Principal, Ian Johnson. We look forward to hearing from you.
To apply/more information:
Jenny Spooner,
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 593326
Email Jennifer.spooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Technician in Beauty

Ashford
Salary: £11,599 - £17,200
We are looking to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide guidance and support to learners and assists with the running of various Clinics. You will be able to demonstrate good organisational and communication skills and relevant experience within the beauty industry would be advantageous.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0559
Tel: 01634 845402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk.

The Royal School of Military Engineering (Chatham) Instructors

Chatham
Salary: £28,219 - £30,312
Closing Date: **Closing Date** 3 October 2008
If you are a skilled tradesperson and you want a secure, exciting and challenging career in training you should consider working at the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) as an Instructor. The School currently employs over 100 civilian instructors who are responsible for ensuring that the Royal Engineers are equipped to carry out all the trade duties associated with their role. Although the Royal Engineers are first and foremost soldiers they are also combat engineers and highly skilled tradesman. If you have ever considered training and are interested in passing on your skills and knowledge to young military personnel we would like to hear from you. Currently we are looking for a number of people to take up the following posts: • Electrical Instructors. • Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Instructors • Heating and Plumbing Instructors • Fabrication Instructors • Electrical and Mechanical Draughtsman • Instructor Fitter - Engines • Land Surveyors These are key appointments and the successful candidates will need to demonstrate that they have the practical skills and knowledge of their trade and have the potential to develop into first class instructors. Training will be provided. For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk Telephone 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) Informal enquires are very welcome, please telephone: Personnel Director Iain Donaldson on 01634 884422 Personnel Officer, Marie Cook on 01634 884736 The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society.We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer minority ethnic and disabled people.
To apply/more information:
Marie Cook
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 884736
Email rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Trainer Demonstrator - Animal Care and Land Based

Canterbury
Salary: £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: TD13
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator - Maths/Physics

Canterbury
Salary: £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
27.75 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: TD17
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator - Sport, Leisure, Travel and Tourism

Canterbury
Salary: starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 29th September 2008 at 12noon
18.5 hours per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include pensions and life assurance, generous holiday allowance, sports hall and gym, close to City Centre, proximity to mainbus/train stations and staff discount scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 04/106
Tel: 01227 811282
(24 hour answephone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/140
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Work Placement Co-ordinatorer

Maidstone
Salary: Hourly Rate: £9.98 (including holiday component)
We require an hourly paid Work Placement Co-ordinator to assist with the placing, monitoring and assessing of students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in their work placements. For further information please contact the Personnel department on 01634 884511.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 884511
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Service Engineer and Installation Engineer

Kent
Salary: Salary Negotiable
To maintain and install all types of Amusement and gaming Equipment in the South East England Area. Company Vehicle Supplied. Current driving Licence required. Please note that only short-listed candidates will receive a reply.
To apply/more information:
Colin Miles
Ivor Thomas Amusements Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0845 0615050
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Skilled Shift Fitters

Gillingham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 3rd Oct 08
This progressive international company has a requirement for skilled engineering fitters, to help maintain its mixed vehicle fleet in the gillingham and swale area. These roles are full time, include shift work and will at times require the successful applicants to work unsupervised in maintaining our vehicle fleet to the highest standards of safety and quality. Key responsibilities include: *In depth knowledge of goods vehicles or passenger carrying vehicles (PCV's) with appropriate qualifications. *High quality vehicle maintenance, cleanliness and presentation standards. *Flexible approach to hours of work. *Self Motivated. *Good report writing skills. *Adherence to all H&S matters. To apply, please send a covering letter, your CV giving details of your relevant experience and qualifications to: Mr A Henry, District Engineering Manager, Arriva Southern Counties, Nelson Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 4LN.
To apply/more information:
Arriva Southern Counties
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Health & Safety, Security, Defense

NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Kent
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 10th October 2008
South East Health Ltd is a dynamic, growing organisation, commissioned by several Primary Care Trusts in Kent and Sussex to deliver an impressive range of unscheduled care services to a resident population base of around 2.2 million. In order to meet the needs of patients we require experienced nurses to join the following nursing teams: NURSE PRACTITIONERS Nurses with minor illness/injury experience are required to work alongside our GP workforce at William Harvey Hospital, Ashford for daytime and out-of-hours shifts as part of our A&E Front Ending Project. We also require experienced minor illness nurses to work within our Out of Hours clinical bases within East Kent including Sittingbourne and the Isle of Sheppey. Nurses will provide assessment and treatment for patients with urgent care needs, supported by PGD's and prescribing skills where appropriate.
To apply/more information:
Caroline Weetch
South East Health Clinical Care Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 376092
Email
caroline.weetch@sehnp.nhs.uk

SECURITY OFFICERS

Dover
Salary: £6.50 P/H. 40 hours per week
RETAIL SECURITY OFFICERS WANTED IN THE DOVER AREA 5 year checkable work history & SIA license is essential. £6.50 P/H. 40 hours per week. Uniform is provided. Call 08700 622 451 opt 3.
To apply/more information:
Aspro (UK) Ltd Security Systems
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 08700 622 451 opt 3
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

ARMOURER and ARMS STORE OPERATOR

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008.
qIf you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen,
Babcock Defence Services,
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 25C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

DESPATCH PICKER

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Successful Ashford Company requires up to four people to join our Despatch Picking team. The role involves selecting and picking plants for customer orders and packing plants ready for transporting. You will be: Working with plants Working with people in a team Working to deadlines The successful candidate will be able to work under pressure, work on their own and within a team which has a "can do" attitude. Some knowledge of plants and Latin names will be an advantage as will a fork lift truck ticket. Good physical fitness and good numeracy is also required. Induction training will be given. Usually 5 days a week Mon-Fri 7.30 to 17.00 but occasionally longer working – the job is not finished till its done and lorry's loaded. In addition there can be some Saturday (morning) working. We offer a very varied working day, good team spirit and plenty of fresh air as well as good rates of pay and rewards for good performance. Applications in writing please, in letter, email (shawn@palmstead.co.uk) or ask for an application form from the office or download one from our web site. For an informal talk speak to Shawn Putland (01233 811307) or Steve Piddock. Please respond to this advert by close of business Monday 6th October 2008 or before. Palmstead Nurseries, Harville Road, Wye, Ashford Kent TN25 5EU palmstead.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Steve Piddock
Palmstead Nurseries Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 811307
Email shawn@palmstead.co.uk

STORESPERSON (AMMUNITION)

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008.
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 15C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

Network Application Technician (Advanced)

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ATA
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Web Systems Developer

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/142
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Online 100s of Kent Jobs are updated daily **JobsforKent.co.uk**

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

SKI INSTRUCTORS

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
SKI INSTRUCTORS Required at Realli-Ski, Barham. Are you an experienced skier/boarder of 10 weeks+, perhaps already qualified? Full & Part time positions starting Oct. www.realli-ski.com 0845 83 82 811.
To apply/more information:
Realli Ski Sports Wear Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0845 83 82 811
Email
applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Deputy Managers

Maidstone
Salary: up to £22,980 plus £27 per sleep in allowance
Closing Date: 6 October
Extraordinary People doing an Extraordinary Job One of the country's leading providers of education and residential care for vulnerable young people are now recruiting. Due to expansion, our homes near Maidstone, Meopham and Bromley currently have vacancies for: Deputy Managers As part of the team of carers, you will work closely with the young people, providing 24 hour intensive care and support within the home. Ideal applicants will have had experience as a residential childcare practitioner or in education. You will need appropriate qualifications and experience to be considered for this role. These positions comes with an excellent benefits package and we take pride in the training and career opportunities we offer. If you feel you have the skills and experience to succeed in any of these roles, please telephone our 24 hour recruitment hotline on 01536 509209 for an application pack or email slitman@castlehomes.co.uk. You can also access our recruitment web page on www.castlecaregroup.co.uk Interviews will take place during week commencing: 13th October.
To apply/more information:
Castlecare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01536 509209
Email
slitman@castlehomes.co.uk

Registered Manager

Maidstone
Salary: up to £22,980 plus £27 per sleep in allowance
Closing Date: 6 October
Extraordinary People doing an Extraordinary Job One of the country's leading providers of education and residential care for vulnerable young people are now recruiting. Due to expansion, our homes near Maidstone, Meopham and Bromley currently have vacancies for: Registered Manager (Salary up to £33,900 plus bonus) As part of the team of carers, you will work closely with the young people, providing 24 hour intensive care and support within the home. Ideal applicants will have had experience as a residential childcare practitioner or in education. You will need appropriate qualifications and experience to be considered for this role. This position comes with an excellent benefits package and we take pride in the training and career opportunities we offer. If you feel you have the skills and experience to succeed in any of these roles, please telephone our 24 hour recruitment hotline on 01536 509209 for an application pack or email slitman@castlehomes.co.uk. You can also access our recruitment web page on www.castlecaregroup.co.uk Interviews will take place during week commencing: 13th October.
To apply/more information:
Castlecare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01536 509209
Email
slitman@castlehomes.co.uk

Residential Support Workers

Maidstone
Salary: up to £15,500 plus £27 per sleep in allowance
Closing Date: 6 October
Extraordinary People doing an Extraordinary Job One of the country's leading providers of education and residential care for vulnerable young people are now recruiting. Due to expansion, our homes near Maidstone, Meopham and Bromley currently have vacancies for: Residential Support Workers As part of the team of carers, you will work closely with the young people, providing 24 hour intensive care and support within the home. Ideal applicants will have had experience as a residential childcare practitioner or in education. You will need appropriate qualifications and experience to be considered for this role. These positions comes with an excellent benefits package and we take pride in the training and career opportunities we offer. If you feel you have the skills and experience to succeed in any of these roles, please telephone our 24 hour recruitment hotline on 01536 509209 for an application pack or email slitman@castlehomes.co.uk. You can also access our recruitment web page on www.castlecaregroup.co.uk Interviews will take place during week commencing: 13th October.
To apply/more information:
Castlecare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01536 509209
Email
slitman@castlehomes.co.uk

Senior Residential Support Workers

Maidstone
Salary: (up to £20,040 plus £27 per sleep in allowance)
Closing Date: 6 October
Extraordinary People doing an Extraordinary Job One of the country's leading providers of education and residential care for vulnerable young people are now recruiting. Due to expansion, our homes near Maidstone, Meopham and Bromley currently have vacancies for: Senior Residential Support Workers As part of the team of carers, you will work closely with the young people, providing 24 hour intensive care and support within the home. Ideal applicants will have had experience as a residential childcare practitioner or in education. You will need appropriate qualifications and experience to be considered for this role. These positions comes with an excellent benefits package and we take pride in the training and career opportunities we offer. If you feel you have the skills and experience to succeed in any of these roles, please telephone our 24 hour recruitment hotline on 01536 509209 for an application pack or email slitman@castlehomes.co.uk. You can also access our recruitment web page on www.castlecaregroup.co.uk Interviews will take place during week commencing: 13th October.
To apply/more information:
Castlecare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01536 509209
Email
slitman@castlehomes.co.uk

Marketing, Advertising

Marketing opportunities

Folkestone
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 17 October 2008. Competitive salaries + excellent benefits packages .. Folkestone Here at Saga, we offer a wide range of quality insurance products that meet the needs of today's over-50s. Innovative direct marketing has played a huge part in our success, and we've built an enviable reputation as one of the leading players in the UK. Now comes the chance to bring your skills to this exciting environment. We have openings on a permanent and fixed-term basis for everyone from graduates (ideally with a relevant degree or equivalent) to experienced marketing professionals. There are opportunities to work on a variety of products on a broad spectrum of activities, including mailings and press campaigns. To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter, stating current salary and quoting reference SS254/KOS, to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE
To apply/more information:
Sally-Jane Plenge,
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
human.resources@saga.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

DRIVERS (PSV, LGV, HGV and ADR QUALIFIED)

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 19-22C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

PLANT OPERATORS (VEHICLE SERVICING)

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 20 October 2008. If If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 17C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

SERVICE/AFTER SALES MANAGER

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 10 October 2008
Following the continued growth of our after sales departments both in Ashford and Canterbury, and with an appetite to continue this trend, it has been decided that this will be best achieved by having an individual focus on each site. We have a business need to achieve a high level of absorption along with above average level of customer retention including the 4+ market, therefore the right candidate will not only need to continue to financially deliver the high levels we are used to, but be in a position to develop, motivate and drive the team forward, whilst keeping a clear focus on offering an "outstanding customer experience" in line with the brand expectations and that of our customers. If you feel you are the right calibre person for the job, email a copy of your CV in the first instance or apply in writing to Mr Ray Kemp, Dealer Principal, Broad Oak BMW, Broad Oak Road, Canterbury CT2 7PX. No Agencies please.
To apply/more information:
Ray Kemp
Barretts of Canterbury
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email ray.kemp@broadoak.bmw-net.co.uk

Taxi Drivers

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Full & part time taxi drivers required. www.a2cabs.co.uk.
To apply/more information:
Elaine
A2 Cabs Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 431500
Email elaine@a2cabs.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

Volunteers

Sittingbourne
Salary: none
Jo has moved to the area with a new baby and a toddler and would really appreciate some support and advice from an experienced parent. She would also like to know about parks and other activities that she could take the children to. Could you volunteer and help JO? All of our volunteers are parents, they attend a free, interesting and informative Induction Programme, one day a week for eight weeks, before being introduced to a family. To find out more you can visit our web site http://home.btconnect.com/Home-Start_Swale or phone 01795 429007.
To apply/more information:
Homestart Sittingbourne & Sheppy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 429007
Email info@jobsforkent.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

NURSE ADVISORS

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 10th October 2008
South East Health Ltd is a dynamic, growing organisation, commissioned by several Primary Care Trusts in Kent and Sussex to deliver an impressive range of unscheduled care services to a resident population base of around 2.2 million. In order to meet the needs of patients we require experienced nurses to join the following nursing teams: For an application pack or an informal discussion with the locality manager please contact Caroline Weetch, HR Assistant on 01732 376092 or e-mail caroline.weetch@sehnp.nhs.uk
Closing Date for receipt of application: 10th October 2008
South East Health is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Caroline Weetch
South East Health Clinical Care Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 376092
Email
caroline.weetch@sehnp.nhs.uk

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008.
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen,
Babcock Defence Services,
Quoting Job Ref: REF: RSME 9C
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk

Personal Assistant/ Carer

Gillingham
Salary: £7 per hour
Required for young disabled man approx 10 hrs per week each £7 per hour.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Bhohi
Quoting Job Ref: 420
Tel: 01634 331667
Email
nurinderb@googlemail.com

RGNs and OH advisers

Folkestone
Salary: tba
Premier Occupational Healthcare continues to experience an exciting period of growth. As a result we are seeking to recruit into the ollowing roles to join our existing Occupational Health team: RGNs and OH advisers Hours : Full and part time • Both roles are based in Folkestone but do require the ability to travel. • Self Motivation • Professionalism • Excellent communication and IT skills For an on-line application form please e.mail a covering letter plus your CV to jan.pethick@premierohc.co.uk Alternatively if you do not have access to a computer, please send your CV and covering letter to: Jan Pethick Premier Occupational Healthcare, Premier House, Shearway Business Park, Pent Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4RJ Please visit our website: www.premierohc.co.uk Premier Occupational Healthcare is an equal opportunities employer and Investors in People.
To apply/more information:
Jan Pethick
Premier Occupational Healthcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
jan.pethick@premierohc.co.uk

STAN (SINGLE TELEPHONE ACCESS NUMBER)

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 10th October 2008
South East Health Ltd is a dynamic, growing organisation, commissioned by several Primary Care Trusts in Kent and Sussex to deliver an impressive range of unscheduled care services to a resident population base of around 2.2 million. In order to meet the needs of patients we require experienced nurses to join the following nursing teams: The STAN service has been commissioned by PCT's and is staffed by a team of experienced nurses and skilled support staff. We require nurses to join our team working between 8am and 8pm at our Ashford Call Centre to help plan patient care alongside GP's ensuring appropriate transfers of care for patients. For an application pack or an informal discussion with the locality manager please contact Caroline Weetch, HR Assistant on 01732 376092 or e-mail caroline.weetch@sehnp.nhs.uk South East Health is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Caroline Weetch,
South East Health Clinical Care Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 376092
Email
caroline.weetch@sehnp.nhs.uk

Support Worker

Thanet
Salary: TBC
East Kent Mencap JOB DESCRIPTION Disabled Applicants who meet the minimum criteria will be offered an interview in every circumstance Support Worker: Day Services Responsible to: Manager- Day Services / Team Leader Areas of responsibility: Day Centre, Associated Satellites and Clubs Purpose of Post: Supporting the Day Services Manager to provide efficient and effective management of unit as described above. Main Duties and Responsibilities: Comply with conditions and criteria as set by Contracts and Planning / Day Service Action Plan Compliance with conditions of placement Provide advice to Service Users on issues of welfare, Community Activities and Resources Maintain Service User assessment and development programmes using appropriate documentation Develop appropriate assessments to meet new service opportunitiesEnsure that care/support packages are maintained and provide up to date information on identified deficits Ensure that effective communication and paperwork is maintained Liaise with other professionals to maintain and develop services Provide regular service reviews with Service Users Assist Service Users in developing Person Centred outcomes Ensure that Service User consultation is facilitated enabling full involvement in decision making processes Review personal risk and complete appropriate documentation Assist Day Services Manager in the Development of Business/Development Plans and evaluate services against pre-set criteria Ensure that all Policies/Protocols/Procedures are maintained/adhered to Implement policies/ Protocols/Procedures and inform Day Services Manager of deficits in order to maintain development Comply with Data Protection Act and Equal Opportunities Policy Comply with all Employment legislation Comply with all Health and Safety legislation. Conduct risk assessments and impart information to relevant parties. Evaluate effectiveness and provide information to the Day Services Manager Support and participate in the provision of training packages Maintain Service User files ensuring up to date records Prepare reports on all associated information as required by the Day Services Manager/Team Leader Support Day Services Manager/Team Leader in the development and modernisation of services Undertake additional reasonable duties within the scope of the post THIS JOB DESCRIPTION CAN BE MODIFIED (WITHIN THE GENERAL CONFINES OF THE POST AND ORGANISATION) IN NEGOTIATION WITH THE EMPLOYEE AS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE POST DICTATES Disabled Applicants who meet the minimum criteria will be offered an interview in every circumstance.
To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 224482
Email lynda.salisbury@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Waking Night Residential Support Workers

Maidstone
Salary: up to £9.88 per hour
Closing Date: 6 October
Extraordinary People doing an Extraordinary Job One of the country's leading providers of education and residential care for vulnerable young people are now recruiting. Due to expansion, our homes near Maidstone, Meopham and Bromley currently have vacancies for: Waking Night Residential Support Workers As part of the team of carers, you will work closely with the young people, providing 24 hour intensive care and support within the home. Ideal applicants will have had experience as a residential childcare practitioner or in education. You will need appropriate qualifications and experience to be considered for this role. Thes positions comes with an excellent benefits package and we take pride in the training and career opportunities we offer. If you feel you have the skills and experience to succeed in any of these roles, please telephone our 24 hour recruitment hotline on 01536 509209 for an application pack or email slitman@castlehomes.co.uk. You can also access our recruitment web page on www.castlecaregroup.co.uk Interviews will take place during week commencing: 13th October.
To apply/more information:
Castlecare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01536 509209
Email
slitman@castlehomes.co.uk

Other

Work from home

Kent
Salary: TBA
COULD YOU USE EXTRA CASH? Choose your own hours Immediate start, 18+ For information ring 0208 338 5533.
To apply/more information:
Kleeneze
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 338 5533
Email info@jobsforkent.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Community Health Networker - Men's mental health and well

Gravesend
Salary: **Salary:** Circa £18,000 - £21,000
Closing Date: 29 September 2008
Could you inspire men to talk about their health? We are looking for someone who has the ability to use innovative methods to collect views and opinions from young men, men out of work and men over the age of 50 and 60 on their mental health. Based at the Gr@nd and working across the Borough of Gravesham the post holder will carry out a needs assessment on the potential inequalities in health and wellbeing for the target groups and write a report on how these needs can be addressed. You will be of degree calibre, with an understanding of health and health related issues specific to men's health and wellbeing. Community development experience is an essential requirement of the post. Some flexibility in terms of evening and weekend work will be required. Appointment is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau check.
To apply/more information:
Gravesham Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: CHNMH/JB
Tel: 01474 33 70 00
Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

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Networker - Health Inequalities, Rural areas

Gravesend
Salary: **Salary:** Circa £18,000 - £21,000
Closing Date: 29 September 2008
Are you passionate about enthusing others to lead a healthy lifestyle? In this exciting new post you will work across the Borough of Gravesham to research the need for, and deliver, a variety of initiatives aimed at reducing health inequalities in rural communities. You will be of degree calibre, with an understanding of health and health related issues. Community development experience is an essential requirement of the post. Some flexibility in terms of evening and weekend work will be required. Appointment is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau check.
To apply/more information:
Gravesham Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: CHNHI/JB
Tel: 01474 33 70 00
Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Public Rights of Way Officer (Definitive Map Review)

Maidstone
Salary: £20,061 - £29,920 per annum
Closing Date: Midday, 9th October 2008
(Salary dependent on experience and progression through the Career Grade is based on the fulfilment of required competencies) Kent County Council is seeking to appoint a Public Rights of Way Officer to join the busy Definitive Map Team, based at Maidstone. With over 6700km of public rights of way, Kent County Council manages the largest network in the country. It also has an excellent national reputation in service delivery, forward thinking and dynamic new initiatives. You will be responsible for assessing, investigating and promoting applications to add and amend public rights of way in accordance with the relevant legislation. You will be expected to liaise with the public, landowners and solicitors, carry out site inspections/meetings, historical research and attend Public Inquiries and Magistrates Courts when necessary. The post carries a high-volume workload so you will have an eye for detail and the ability to juggle numerous competing priorities and adapt readily to the use of new technology. You will also be a team player, educated to HND/Degree level or equivalent in a related subject. The post requires a high level of motivation, good knowledge of rights of way law and practice and related countryside access issues along with excellent organisational and communication skills. For more information, please call, email or visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs. Interview date: 14th November 2008.
To apply/more information:
Laura Wilkins
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: ER/08/0114
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email
recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Consultants

Ashford
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To apply/more information:
Craft Ed (UK) Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01993 892140
Email info@craft-ed.com

Part Time Assistant Florist

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: TBA
Please apply in writing to Isle Craft Flowers, 278 Minster Road, Sheppey ME12 3LR.
To apply/more information:
Isle Craft Flowers
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email pdoucy@aol.com

TELESALES OPERATIVE

Tenterden
Salary: tba
We are looking for a confident communicator who is self-motivated with basic IT/keyboard skills to work in our friendly Sales Office. Previous experience in business to consumer calling would be an advantage but not essential as training will be given. Excellent earning potential. Own transport necessary due to location.Pauline Sothcott CERIUM GROUP LTD Cerium Technology Pk Appledore Road Tenterden TN30 7DE.
To apply/more information:
Cerium Optical
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
pauline@ceriumoptical.com

Highways - District of Ashford

(Martens Lane, High Halden)(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because a water main installation is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Martens Lane, High Halden, North of Marten Farm, on or after 17 October 2008, for an estimated period of five days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Plurenden Road, Church Hill, A28 Ashford Road, Standard Lane, Chequer Tree Lane and Martens Lane.

Highways - District of Canterbury

(NORTH STREAM, CHISLET) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because a water main installation is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on North Stream, Chislet between Grays Farm and Little Grays on or after 13 October 2008, for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via North Stream, Boyden Gate Hill, Highstead, Ford Hills, Heart in Hand Road, Sweechbridge Road, Thanet Way and Brook Lane.

(KING STREET, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because installation of ducting works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on King Street, Canterbury from its junction with St Alphege Lane to its junction with Orange Street, on 2 October 2008, for an estimated period of two days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be eastbound via Orange Street, Palace Street, The Borough, St Radigunds Street and Knotts Lane; westbound via Palace Street and Orange Street.

Highways - District of Dover

(COXHILL, SHEPHERDSWELL, DOVER) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because soakaway and gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Coxhill, Shepherdswell, Dover approximately 1000m north of the A2 junction or 600m south of the junction with Westcourt Lane and Church Hill, in the area of Thrift Cottage & Elgin Cottage on or after 01 October 2008 for an estimated period of 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Church Hill, Coldred Road, Church Road and the A2.

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

PENSHURST ROAD, CHIDDINGSTONE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Penshurst Road, Chiddingstone between its junctions with Mill Lane and Bore Place Road.

The Order will become effective on 29th September 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to take 1 sunday. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Moorden Lane, Station Hill, Pp;enshurst Road, Fordcombe Road, New Road, Spring Hill, Ashurst Road, Hartfield Road, Mill Hill, Mont St Aignan Way, Station Road, Main Road, Spout Lane, Pootings Road.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the inspection of a railway bridge.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

Highways - District of Shepway

(A20 Ashford Road, M20 junction 12 Cheriton Interchange, folkestone) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because highway safety works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on A20 Ashford Road, M20 junction 12 Cheriton

Interchange, Folkestone from junction 12 roundabout to its junction with Newington Road on 2 October 2008 for an estimated period of 3 nights over a 3 week period or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A20 Ashford Road, B2068/M20 junction 11, A20 Ashford Road, A261 Hythe Road, London Road, A259 Military Road, Rampart Road, Seabrook Road, Sandgate Hill, Sandgate Road, Earles Avenue, Shorncliffe Road, Beachborough Road, Cheriton Road, Cheriton High Street and M20 junction 12 roundabout.

(THE OLD HIGH STREET, FOLKESTONE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on The Old High Street, Folkestone from its junction with Rendevous Street to its junction with Tontine Street on 29 September 2008 for an estimated period of one week or until such works are complete.

There is no alternative route for through traffic access only.

Highways - District of Swale

(The Street, Bredgar) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because road layout improvement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on The Street, Bredgar from the junction with Bexon Lane to the junction with Gore Road, on or after 30 September 2008, for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bexon Lane, Ruins Barn Road, Tunstall Road, and Primrose Lane.

(CROUCH LANE, SELLING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because a bridge inspection is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Crouch Lane, Selling from the junction of Selling Road on the carriageway under the railway bridge, on or after 14 October 2008, for an estimated period of one day from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm, or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Selling Road, South Street, Boughton Church Road, and Dane Court Road (also known as Kit Hill).

Highways - District of Thanet

(YORK STREET, RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because property maintanence works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on York Street, Ramsgate from its junction with Royal Parade to its junction with Queen Street on or after 29 September 2008 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Royal Parade and Leopold Street.

(CLIFTON STREET MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Clifton Street Margate from its junction with Dane Hill to its junction with Wellington Gardens on or after 30 September 2008 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Dane Hill, Northdown Road and Bath Road or via Bath Road, Dane Road and Dane Hill.

(EBBSFLEET LANE, RICHBOROUGH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because electricity duct and cable installation and jointing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Ebbsfleet Lane, Richborough from the junction with A256 Ramsgate Road to the junction with Grinsell Hill on or after 29 September 2008 for an estimated period of 8 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A256, A299 and Thorne Hill.

Highways - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

(LEIGH ROAD, HILDENBOROUGH)(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Leigh Road, Hildenborough at the railway bridge on or after Sunday 19th October 2008 when required for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via B2027 Stocks Green Road, B2027 Hildenborough Road, Powder Mill Lane, Leigh Road and for northbound traffic vice versa.

W S Atkins apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for a railway bridge inspection. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Tracy Zeal of Ashtead Plant Hire Company Ltd on 01666 828670.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

Kent Highway Services

The Insolvency Act 1986
FFTB LIMITED
T/a Casey & Associates
Company No 03284726

H R GOODALE LIMITED
Company No 01115730
(Both in Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sabia S Sahota, of BBK Partnership, 1 Beauchamp Court, Victors Way, Barnet, Herts, EN5 5TZ was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the creditors on 18th September 2008.
Dated 23rd September 2008
SABIA S SAHOTA, Liquidator

GAS SAFE (SOUTH EAST) LIMITED
(In Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given under Insolvency Rule 4.106 that I, William Jeremy Jonathan Knight of 68 Ship Street, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 1AE, was appointed Liquidator of the above company by the creditors on 19 September 2008. Creditors are required on or before 14 November 2008, to send in their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors, if any, to me at the above address and prove their debts or claims and in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated: 19 September 2008
W J J Knight, Liquidator

Kent County Council - The Marriage Act 1949 and Civil Partnership Act 2004 Approved Premises for Civil Marriages & Civil Partnerships

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:–

Name of Premises: **The Great House Gills Green, Hawkhurst**

Applicant: **Martial Chaussy**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the following address below.

Martin Alford, Head of Registration
Regulatory Services, Invicta House
County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

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INSIDE



New Mégane a scorcher Page 78



Saving money on vans Page 79



New Audi A4 spaceship Pages 82-83

Lipscomb heralds a new Lotus era at Evora event

By **STEVE LOADER**

KENT motor group Lipscomb was one of a few Lotus dealers nationally to be selected for an exclusive launch of the new Evora sports coupe.

The car not only celebrates the 60th anniversary of the brand but is also the first all-new Lotus since the Elise roadster made its debut in 1995 and the world's only commercially available mid-engined 2+2.

Apart from signalling a move back to the high end supercar market that Lotus once challenged with icons likes the 1970s/1980s Esprit – star of several James Bond films – the Evora also shows Lotus working harder to entice customers with interior as much as exterior style.

The Elise is a minimalist fun sportster and an attempt to spin-off an 'executive' version led to the new generation Europa – reviving a name from the heyday of Lotus founder Colin Chapman.

But the Europa shows how little practice Lotus has had lately in delivering a quality interior and we were unimpressed by wayward stitching on the leather seats and a clunky interior when we road tested the car.

The Evora though and is being marketed as an all-round package delivering "dynamic performance, innovative chassis technology and high levels of luxury, packaging and convenience".





HIGH HOPES: Lipscomb managing director Peter Barnes (left) and dealer principal Mark Stevens with the new mid-engine 2+2 and (right) the snazzy Evora interior

Performance comes from a further fortuitous tie-up with Toyota; the demise of the old Toyota MR2 sports car opened the way for its erstwhile rival, the Elise, to receive a shot in the arm with a re-engine courtesy of the Japanese car giant.

The Evora underpins this link with a Lotus-tuned lightweight 280PS (277bhp) 3.5-litre V6 Toyota engine.

The cabin looks stylish and features luxuries unknown on previous Lotuses, such as touch-screen multi-media system and electric power-fold door mirrors.

And it should also put an end to the 'Lotus scramble' – undignified clambering into the seats beneath the low roofs and across the high bulky sills of latter day models like the Elise, Exige and Europa.

Wider, taller door apertures and narrower sills have been built in and Lotus claims the newcomer could even accommodate two 6-feet 5-inch American men in the front.

The £45,000 Evora arrives next spring but order books are open now and Kent's sole dealer, Lipscomb Lotus at Aylesford, Maidstone, reports several firm commitments although prices and specifications have yet to be finalised.

No more than a third of the UK's 30 or so official Lotus dealers were granted an Evora launch and Lipscomb dealer principal Mark Stevens said: "It was a great privilege to be selected as one of the few dealers to preview the new Lotus Evora.

"The New Lotus Evora takes us into a brand new market and we feel we have a winner on our hands."

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TOYOTA

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Compiled by Steve Loader

Move fast to snap up hot Mégane

RENAULT'S new limited edition Mégane Renaultsport R26.R (from £23,815) scorcher is now available to order from selected dealers.

It has been developed from the popular Mégane Renaultsport 230 F1 Team R26 and retains the engine, gearbox and limited slip differential as the R26, but with a significant weight reduction of 123kg to make it the ultimate Mégane Renaultsport.

Peak power is 230bhp and allows 0-60mph in 5.9 seconds.

Just 230 will come to the UK and the car's exclusivity is enhanced by a carbon fibre bonnet plus new 18-inch red alloys and rear spoiler and several exclusive colour schemes.

Andrew Tollman, general manager at Renault Orpington, said: "As well as being a fantastic road car, the Mégane R26.R is also the ultimate track day car, having been specifically developed for drivers who want to experience the true performance that Renaultsport has to offer.

"With such limited numbers, customers will have to act quickly if they want to be one of the lucky ones who will get to own an instant collectors' item."



Top deals on Nissan stars

NISSAN is riding high on the success of the radical Note five-door hatchback and Qashqai crossover models that replaced the slow-selling Primera and Almera line-ups.

And the brand's Canterbury dealer Baileys Nissan is now pressing home this advantage with keen deals for the 'credit-crunched' market, starting at zero per cent even for the two or four-wheel drive Qashqai and chunky X-Trail compact 4x4/SUV.





Saab reinvents convertible

MORE than 25 years after unveiling its first four-seater convertible Saab is hinting at taking the type to a new level after unveiling the 9-X Air concept car.

On one hand, the 9-X follows the trend towards folding hardtop convertibles by delivering a clean roofline, but has opted for the compact and easy folding option of a traditional canvas roof.

Prominent rear pillars curve upwards to mount the powered roof or canopy, which folds into the boot to deliver open-top motoring while 'top up' mode creates a racy and aerodynamic coupe that draws on Saab brand roots in aviation.

The concept's other distinctive feature is 'surround glass' windows that butt up to those rear pillars and, with a wind deflector on top of the windscreen, provide top down travel free from buffeting according to Saab.

Amazing Offers on New Skoda's

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Octavia 1.9 TDi Ambiente Estate*
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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km). Octavia Range: Urban 23.7 (11.9) – 44.8 (6.3), Extra-urban 40.9 (6.9) – 67.3 (4.2), Combined 32.5 (8.7) – 57.6 (4.9). CO2 emissions for the Octavia Range 130 – 207g/km. Fabia Range: Urban 27.7 (10.2) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra-urban 47.1 (6.0) – 83.1 (3.4), Combined 37.7 (7.5) – 68.9 (4.1). CO2 emissions for the Fabia Range 109 – 180g/km. New Superb Range: Urban 19.0 (14.9) – 38.7 (7.3), Extra-urban 40.9 (6.9) – 58.9 (4.8), Combined 28.2 (10.0) – 49.6 (5.7). CO2 emissions for the New Superb Range 151 – 235g/km. Roomster Range: Urban 27.2 (10.4) – 46.3 (6.1), Extra-urban 45.6 (6.2) – 62.8 (4.5), Combined 36.7 (7.7) – 55.4 (5.1). CO2 emissions for the Roomster Range 135 – 185g/km.

Sprinter's stop-start approach can help hard-pressed van operators

by STEVELOADER

SLASHING the cost of running our cars is hogging the headlines, but commercial operators are also hunting ways to save and maintain profitability in tough times.

So Mercedes-Benz commercial vehicle specialist Sparshatts of Kent has thrown a lifeline to hard-pressed van operators, by introducing two super-efficient demonstrator vans fitted with innovative fuel-saving devices.

The new Mercedes ECO-Start Sprinters, which feature eye-catching graphics, allow customers to see and experience how the system can trim fuel bills and exhaust emissions significantly by simply cutting the engine while the Sprinter is stationary.



SUPER EFFICIENT: The new Mercedes ECO-Start Sprinter cuts fuel bills and exhaust emissions significantly

Savings

Tests by independent journalists on an early version recorded fuel savings of ten per cent and more over a standard Sprinter.

ECO-Start activates whenever the van is stationary for more than two seconds, then restarts automatically when the driver depresses the clutch. The savings are highest for operators who face multi-drop deliveries and regular work through busy town and city centres or in heavy traffic.

Extra durability has been engineered into the system to match the renowned ruggedness of the Sprinter, so the starter motor has been uprated and uses increased battery and alternator capacity.

And ECO-Start will not operate until normal operating temperature is reached.

The system is available on all new Mercedes Sprinters with four-cylinder engines and manual gearboxes for just £155, but the uprated battery and alternator takes the total cost of the package to £545 from Sparshatts, which has sites at Sittingbourne, Ashford and Dartford.

"This represents excellent value for money," said Sparshatts' joint MD Andrew Sparshatt.

"Even using conservative figures of an annual 20,000 miles at 25mpg per vehicle and a saving of six per cent, it means the system could pay for itself well inside two years and go on to deliver real cash savings after that. And that payback period will only get shorter if fuel costs continue to rise."

But 'driver input' is also part of the operating mix, as Mercedes-Benz van sales and marketing chief Steve Bridge pointed out: "Traffic conditions, vehicle specification, load weight and driving style can all influence fuel consumption.

"However, we are confident that for most operators whose work is largely in an urban environment, the system can produce a significant reduction in fuel consumption. Using less fuel also cuts down the amount of exhaust gas produced. And, as a fringe benefit, most drivers find it much more relaxing to have the engine off, rather than idling, when they are stuck in traffic or at the lights."

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DrivingReview



by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Audi A4 spaceship is a 'best drive' – at a price

Audi A4 Avant



SEDUCTIVE: The new Audi A4 Avant is a good looking, heavy load carrying lifestyle estate, but the top end of the range is pricey

AUDI could be driving people to downsize more than it should.

For the launch of its latest A4 model earlier this year looks increasingly like an own goal, prompting buyers of the bigger A6 to trade down to its little sister.

The new car might be 12cm longer and five cm wider than its predecessor, but the A4 is still shorter and narrower than the A6 yet the long wheelbase wheel-at-each-corner format has created what is probably the biggest cabin in the compact executive class.

This sector is led by the BMW 3-series of course, but Audi is in hot pursuit of its German arch rival after replacing Mercedes-Benz as the 'No2' German executive marque in the UK.

I reckon the A4 is still somewhere short of the rear-wheel drive Beemer for balance and sheer driving pleasure, though the front-driven Audi edges closer with every generation while all-wheel drive Quattro models are a different proposition and sell for a modest premium of under £2,000 against two-wheel drive equivalents.

On the other hand, that is the last time you will hear me use the word 'modest' when talking A4 prices; the range starts at a shade under 20 grand for the 118bhp 1.8-litre petrol entry model, but this is hardly a sporty speedster and trading up to the diesels that most corporate and private buyers desire takes the threshold to £2,250.

And a modest wish list of options piles on the pounds; our admittedly seductive 3.0TDI Quattro Avant (estate) test car in mid-range SE trim sells normally for £30,300, but leather seats – I would expect them as standard at this level – add £1,765 and the money pit then opens up.

As a result, our car costs £41,590 on the

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2005 55 Alfa Romeo GT 1.9 JTD 2-Door Coupe Sterling grey metallic 35,900 Miles WAS £13,995 NOW £12,995
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road with additions falling into three categories in my book: 'petty – should be standard', 'have to have or harm your chances of selling the car on' and 'nice to have even at the price'.

Examples of the three respectively are hill-hold function for smooth pull away (£45), sat nav (£1,975) – yes, a Tom-Tom would do the job but you don't buy an Audi and then fit a 'wobbly pod' on the dash – and 'Open Sky' panoramic sunroof (£1,100).

Another point illustrated by the 40-plus grand price tag on our test car was how expensive options strip the car of its real attractions as a car in the circa £20,000 executive sector. The roomy and durable cabin feels like a high quality, prestigious Germanic driver-orientated executive car at the bottom end of the range and just hideously overpriced at the other end.



Enough about the car's shortcomings though, because there is plenty to laud too and especially when equipped with the gorgeously smooth six-cylinder 237bhp 3.0TDI diesel – the perfect riposte to tired arguments that petrol engines are still best for refinement. There is lots of pulling power on tap but the Quattro system allows this to be transferred properly to the road to deliver 0-62mph in 6.3 seconds and a great driving experience – this car is one of our best drives this year.

The distance between front and back wheels, wide track, low slung stance and light weight make the car feel exceptionally well planted on the road and it corners with a flat stance and lovely poise, again aided by the Quattro system.

The ride is not harsh though and the A4 feels classy on the motorway.

As mentioned earlier, the cabin is incredibly airy and accentuated by the panoramic roof – if fitted. There are scallops at the back of the front seats for extra rear kneeroom, but these are virtually superfluous thanks to the room allowed by the distance between front and rear axles.

The dashboard is typically well-arranged in Audi's trademark style though the steering wheel on our car looked cheap for a car costing £40,000 plus – not so much so for a car costing £20,000 – and the seats are comfortable and supportive.

As for the Avant body style, this latest generation is a good mix of lifestyle estate and serious load lugger and a good looker too.

DrivingStats

- Audi A4 Avant 3.0TDI Quattro SE Tiptronic £30,300
- Range: £19,900-33,850
- Garage stats: 4.7m by 1.82m four-door estate
- Powertrain: 2,967cc/237bhp V6 diesel driving all four wheels through a six-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 155mph (governed) and 0-62mph in 6.3 seconds
- How green?: category-E (£170/year) and 179g/km CO2 emissions
- Official fuel figures: combined 39.8mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): *****
- Fuel tank: 64 litres/16.91 gallons
- Insurance group: 16
- Warranty: three years/60,000 miles.
- Website: www.audi.co.uk
- Rivals: Alfa Romeo 159 Sportwagon, BMW 3-Series Touring, Citroen C5, Ford Mondeo, Honda Accord, Mazda6, Mercedes C-Class, Saab 9-3 Sportwagon, Subaru Legacy, Vauxhall Insignia, Volvo V70 and VW Passat

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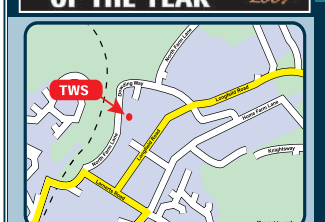


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156, T Spark 1.6 16v Turismo Man, gj04vxd, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, cd player, radio, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, traction control, trip computer, abs, side air bags, twin air bags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, electric front windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, red, 59000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

SPIDER, 3.2 V6 24v 04, gj57ffy, 17in alloy wheels, 6 speed manual gearbox, anti-lock brakes, climate control, cruise control, driver air bag knee, driver information system, driver, passenger and front side air bags, driver/passenger seat height adjustment, spacesaver spare wheel, steering wheel leather, volumetr, monte carlo blue metallic, 24995 miles, £24995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, gk02 oec, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, electric front windows, electric mirrors, adjustable steering column, height adjustable seat, traction control, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, blue, 58000 miles, £5495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

A3, TDi Sport 5dr, af55tka, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, head restraints, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, electric mirrors, climate control, radio, cd player, front fog lamps, stability control, trip computer, alloy wheels, silver, 65000 miles, £9990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A3, A3 Sportback 2.0 Tdi, 10004020074, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cruise control, rear wash/wipe, auto-dip rearview, electric mirrors, electric windows, dual climate zones, cd player, alloy wheels, silver grey metallic, 66000 miles, £9990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9 TDi SE, aj55hzc, remote central locking, alarm, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, metallic paintwork, roof rails, rear wash/wipe, automatic electric windows, electric mirrors, dual climate zones, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, silver, 64000 miles, £10490, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A4, Avant TDi SE, oe04ffa, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cruise control, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, dual climate zones, cd player, alloy wheels, silver grey metallic, 61000 miles, £8990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9tdi 130 se estate, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £8950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

A4, 1.8T S Line Saloon 4d 1781cc (2004), rn04thk, climate control, abs braking system, alloy wheels, remote locking, half leather interior, electric windows & mirrors, alarm / immobilizer, radio / cd, power steering, height adjustable driver`s seat, height adjustable steering wheel, front & side airbags. balck metallic, 88600 miles, £10995, E-SSURED Cars UK, Broadstairs, 0845 6447751 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9 TDi SE 5dr, 123101127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, cruise control, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, silver, 32029 miles, £11999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 316i SE, 6063079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear headrests, centre armrest, full leather, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric windows, electric mirrors, traction control, air conditioning, climate control, radio cassette, multi-disc cd player, twin air bags, side air bags, curtain airbags, trip computer, cruise control, abs, power steering, auto-dip rearview, alloy wheels, blue, 64700 miles, £5995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318ci SE, 6472079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, parking sensor, electric mirrors, electric windows, centre armrest, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cruise control, traction control, twin air bags, side air bags, air conditioning, climate control, radio cassette, multi-disc cd player, trip computer, abs, auto-dip rearview, alloy wheels, silver, 28700 miles, £7995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

5 SERIES, 520 i auto, lg52kkk, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, head restraints, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, radio cassette, 16'' alloys, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, light blue metallic, 85000 miles, £7995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, gk08orw, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, S 1.2, gf57gxx, finished in sports blue with black interior, blue, 1000 miles, £6295, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX 5dr, du06wcf, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, black, 8000 miles, £6995, Automatically Ray Morris (Bexleyheath), BexleyFUSION, 2006, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers cloth seat trim drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front head restraints height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser pas passenger airbag rear headrests rear wiper remote central locking space saver spare wheel steel wheels, black sapphire, 15665 miles, £7495, WJ King Vauxhall, Woolwich, 020 8854 8161 (TRADE)

FUSION, 1.6 2 5dr, ly05jxc, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, contact lewis gallego or tim arif, silver, 0 miles, £6000, SMC Ford Gravesend, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 5dr, gk56zlz, folding rear seats, height adjustable seat, head restraints, anti-theft system, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric front windows, aluminium silver, 4000 miles, £5995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 1.6, gj05cyh, finished in silver with interior, silver, 33000 miles, £5895, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

MATIZ, 1.0 SE+ Hatchback 5Dr 995cc, 56/2006, a/con radio/cd player electric windows pas abs central locking, metallic blue, 14, 000 miles, £4995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN berlingo 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx sold with rac warranty side door white pas 43.000 miles fsh lined, £4350, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CITROEN berlingo 800, 02 2005, 1.9 d lx sold with rac warranty side door white elec window white 49.000 miles fsh bulkhead lined, £4600, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Multispace Desire 1.6 16v Man, ek05nnf, cloth upholstery, head restraints, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, trip computer, abs, child locks, twin air bags, electric front windows, radio cassette, steering wheel audio controls, red, 20000 miles, £4999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Multispace Forte D, ek55 vge, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, power steering, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, radio cassette, twin air bags, abs, cloth upholstery, silver, 28100 miles, £5695, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, LX 600 D Enterprise (LEZ COMP), fm06rbx, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, steering wheel audio controls, ply-lined, tel. 01795 430295, white, 18000 miles, £4295, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

C2, 2006, abs body coloured bumpers cloth seat trim drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front head restraints full size spare wheel immobiliser isofix child seat anchor points pas passenger airbag radio/cd rear wiper remote central locking service indicator steel wheels steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer, black, 22206 miles, £5995, WJ King Vauxhall, Farningham, 01322 862366 (TRADE)

C3, SX 5dr, 6357079, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, rain-sensing wipers, silver, 23900 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

C3, SX 5dr, gr55 hzj, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, rain-sensing wipers, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, power steering, silver, 26900 miles, £5295, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

XSARA HDI, TURBO DIESEL ESTATE HDI, 2004 (54), 04 (54) citroen xsara 2.0 lx turbo diesel hdi estate, stunning metallic cherry coachwork with charcoal trim, full service history, 2 former keepers, air con, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, air bags, remote locking, alarm/immobilizer, original cd hi-fi, alloy wheels, a well looked after example. only £3995, metalic cherry, low miles, £3995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

XSARA PICASSO, 2001 (y), 01 (y) citroen xsara picasso 1.8 sx, 5 door hatch, stunning met silver coachwork with spotless cloth trim, only 59000 miles, bargain low mileage genuine car at £3995 many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on: www.rivieracarsales.co.uk, metallic silver, £only £3995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

XSARA PICASSO, 52 2002, remote central locking, electric windows, electric mirrors, twin airbags, air conditioning, cd radio system, stereo controls on steering wheel, 5 speed gearbox, rear picnic table, three adjustable rear seats, citroen shopping trolley basket, parcel shelf, front fog lamps, one owner, service history. metallic light purple, miles, £5995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

DAEWOO nubira 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se mot july 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

TACUMA, CDX 1998cc 5 door, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking alarm driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering immobiliser electric windows, met blue, 85000 miles, £2495, Northdown Road Motor Company, Margate, 01843 290890 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

COPEN, Activetop 1.3, 08/2008, red leather interior pas remote central locking rear spoiler dual exhaust pipes a/con electric windows rear wind deflector front fog lights sports seats, grey metallic, delivery miles miles, £12370, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

MATERIA, 08/2008, alloy wheels twin exhaust tinted glass a/con remote c/locking electric windows fog lamps reverse park sensors & much more!!!, dark red mica, delivery miles miles, £11, 495, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

SIRION, 1.0 S Hatchback 5Dr, 08/2008, abs pas remote c/locking radio/cd player electric windows a/con, silver metallic, 500 miles, £8045, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

SIRION, SE 5dr, ex07vzf, alarm, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, power steering, electric front windows, aluminium silver, 14000 miles, £6995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

TERIOS, 1.5 SX Station Wagon 5Dr, 08/2008, 16'' alloy wheels heated/electricdoor mirrors radio/cd player a/con electirc windows front fog lights reverse parking sensor. remote c/locking pas abs, metallic blue, delivery miles miles, £14, 195, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

TERIOS, 1.3 Sport Station Wagon 5d 1298cc, 05 2005, remote central locking, a.b.s, electric windows, electric mirrors, power assisted steering, twin srs airbags, cd radio system, air conditioning, 5 speed gearbox, £6795, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

FIAT

FIAT DUCATO 14 2.8 JTD, 02 2002, 14 seats minibus rohill tri axle 40.000 miles sold with rac warranty taillift air suspension ex council ideal camper conversion, £6995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, gk08fkw, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, grey, 8000 miles, £8995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, wr07vke, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, black, 4600 miles, £6495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

IDEA, Eleganza, 13615258256, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, trip computer, blue, 19950 miles, £4995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

FORD

FORD CONNCET T220, 12 2004, 1.8 tddi 75 ps swb white ply lined 80.000 miles fsh sold with rac warranty, £3850, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FORD CONNECT T200, 05 2004, 1.8 tdci 90 ps white 83.000 miles ply lined sold with rac warranty, £3750, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ESCORT, 1.8 SI CONVERTABLE, 1995 (n), 95 (n) ford escort 1.8 si convertible, daytona yellow coachwork with contrasting black leather trim, service history, electric pack, remote central locking, alarm, air con, electric windows, electric mirrors, twin air bags, alloy wheels, cd hi-fi, bargain convertible for the spring. only £1995, datona yellow, 67000 miles, £1995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.8 DIESEL VAN, 1997 (p), 97 (9) ford fiesta 1.8 courier diesel van, 3 door hatch, diamond white coachwork with grey cloth trim, 120000 miles, recent service, new mot, air bag, original hi-fi, bargain diesel van at £995, white, £only £995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Zetec, 1998, central locking front electric windows drivers airbag power steering immobiliser alloy wheels, moondust silver, 81000 miles, £2000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Ghia Auto, 2002, electric windows remote central locking central locking air conditioning power steering drivers airbag alloy wheels immobiliser, pepper red, 66000 miles, £4000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec Auto [Climate Pack], 2006, insurance group 6 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking side airbags sports seats steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer 1 owner service history, tango, 5000 miles, £7000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i 3dr, gj55pzy, immobiliser, power steering, cloth upholstery, head restraints, folding rear seats, abs, air bag, rear wash/wipe, radio cassette, uk specification, uk supplied, colorado red, 31377 miles, £3650, Lifestyle Ford Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Studio 3dr, gl57gxt, immobiliser, power steering, cloth upholstery, head restraints, folding rear seats, abs, air bag, rear wash/wipe, radio cassette, uk specification, uk supplied, colorado red, 4535 miles, £4950, Lifestyle Ford Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0TDCi 115 LX 5dr, 15/09/2005, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, green, 42481 miles, £6000, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 LX 5dr, 06/09/2006, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, silver, 24607 miles, £6900, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, I-VTEC SE Executive Auto, 6184079, rear headrests, full leather, remote central locking, alarm, electric windows, electric mirrors, electric seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, air conditioning, climate control, twin air bags, cruise control, electric sunroof, colour satnav, alloy wheels, silver, 47400 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

ACCORD, Type-V, 6186079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, full leather, electric seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, radio cassette, twin air bags, electric sunroof, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, green, 54600 miles, £3995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CIVIC, - 2.0 I-Vtec Type R Gt 3dr, 1498649, honda civic 2.0 i-vtec type r gt 3dr £15, 689.00, registration av57ozs sale price £15, 689.00, registered 2007 mileage 14000 miles, transmission manual body style hatchback, fuel type petrol exterior black, number of doors 3 interior, previous owners 1 interior trim, drake and fletcher provide a variety of warranty options. our sales teams will be happy to explain the options to you. black, £15689, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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CIVIC, 2002, abs air conditioning alarm body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors electric sunroof front electric windows heated door mirrors immobiliser isofix child seat anchor points pas passenger airbag radio/cassette rear electric windows rear wiper remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, silver, 37652 miles, £4995, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, CDX 5dr, gn04fwt, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric windows, parking sensor, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 12000 miles, £5495, Automatically Ray Morris (Bexleyheath), Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

AMICA, CDX 5dr, wk08vdx, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, abs, air bag, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, blue, 2000 miles, £6495, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

AMICA, - 1.1 Cdx 5dr, 1344649, hyundai amica 1.1 cdx 5dr £5, 395.00, registration ek56wnb sale price £5, 395.00, registered 2006 mileage 6839 miles, transmission manual body style hatchback, fuel type petrol exterior aqua, number of doors 5 interior grey, previous owners 1 interior trim cloth, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. £5395, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

COUPE, SE, 04, excellent car. tax until e/o feb 09, mot expires 07/09/2009. 3 door coupe special edition, ocean blue, petrol, manual, abs, air conditioning, alarm, alloy wheels, cruise control plus more. 32, 000 miles, full service history. reg sept 04 (54 plate), owned since new. genuine reason for sale. for further details please email keith@keithpestell.co.uk or telephone 01634 263603, ocean blue, £6100, Gillingham Kent, 01634263603 (PRIVATE)

GETZ, - 1.3 Gsi 5dr Auto, 1337649, hyundai getz 1.3 gsi 5dr auto £5, 695.00, registration ex55xle sale price £5, 695.00, body style hatchback, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. silver, £5695, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

I30, - 1.6 Syle Estate Auto, 1306649, hyundai i30 1.6 syle estate auto £12, 495.00, registration gj08khv sale price £12, 495.00, registered 2008 mileage 3000 miles, transmission automatic body style estate, fuel type petrol exterior stone black mica, number of doors 5 interior black, previous owners 1 interior trim cloth, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. demonstrator, car now reduced to £12495, black, £12495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

TUCSON, - 2.0 Crtd Cdx 5dr, 1147649, hyundai tucson 2.0 crtd cdx 5dr £7, 995.00, registration hn55tnu sale price £7, 995.00, registered 2005 mileage 20178 miles, transmission manual body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior silver, number of doors 5 interior grey, previous owners 2 interior trim leather, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. car now reduced to £7995, silver, £7995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

TUCSON, - 2.0 Crtd Cdx 5dr, 1143649, hyundai tucson 2.0 crtd cdx 5dr £8, 995.00, registration nc55rgx sale price £8, 995.00, registered 2006 mileage 9055 miles, transmission manual body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior teal blue, number of doors 5 interior grey, previous owners 1 interior trim leather, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. car now reduced to £8995, blue, £8995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

ISUZU

RODEO, Denver Max TD Pu 4x4 Dcb, ve56nla, alarm, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote central locking, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, power steering, satellite navigation, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 3-person rear seat, full leather, 18'' alloys, 4x4, aluminium silver, 15820 miles, £12500, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE)

RODEO, Denver Max TD Pu 4x4 Dcb, bk57wbu, alarm, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote central locking, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, power steering, satellite navigation, abs, air bag, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, full leather, 18'' alloys, 4x4, aluminium silver, 9890 miles, £15950, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE

RODEO, Denver Max TD Pu 4x4 Dcb, ve56nkg, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 16'' alloys, 4x4, maroon, 12110 miles, £12800, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI SR [7 Seat] Diesel, 2008, insurance group 10 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking roof rails side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, grey, 14 miles, £12995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

CEED, - 1.6 Ls 5dr Auto, 1472649, alarm, climate control, trip computer, front fog lamps, kia ceed 1.6 ls 5dr auto £13, 595.00, registration gl08mvg sale price £13, 595.00, registered 2008 mileage 500 miles, transmission automatic body style hatchback, alarm, trip computer, 6 speakers, side airbags, 3 point inertia reel seatbelts on all 5 seats, abs/ebd, 16, remote central door locking, front fog lamps, climate control and air quality control system, radio/cd + mp3, silver, £13595, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CERATO, 1.5 CRDi LX Diesel, 2005, insurance group 7 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, pale blue, 22387 miles, £5995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

MAGENTIS, 2.0 LS, delivery mileage, ebony black, miles, £11995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

MAGENTIS, Le 16v, eo54yon, anti-theft system, immobiliser, rear headrests, rear armrest, height adjustable seat, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, electric front windows, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, black, 25000 miles, £4995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 TD5 County Station Wagon, 10814054, air conditioning, abs, traction control, remote alarm, power steering, rear wash/wipe, side steps, sunroof, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, high specification vehicle. road tax on this vehicle is £210 per year. metallic blue, 41000 miles, £12495, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TD5 County Station Wagon, 10830054, remote alarm, sunroof, radio cassette, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, 10 seater. road tax is £210 per year. price is £12, 995 + £2, 274.13 vat= £15, 269.13 total, red, 29000 miles, £12995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TD5 GS Manual, 10860054, climate control, twin sunroofs, abs, side steps, traction control, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, power steering, twin air bags, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, alloy wheels, 4x4, top part exchange prices given for defenders against any discovery. road tax is £210 per year on this vehicle, monte carlo blue, 74000 miles, £7995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TD5 GS Manual, bj52gnk, traction control, climate control, remote alarm, remote central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, headlamp jetwash, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, tow pack, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, top part exchange prices given for defenders against any discovery. road tax is £210 per year for this vehicle, silvergold metallic, 77000 miles, £8495, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS300, GS 300 SE, 503461, remote alarm, central locking, full leather, electric seats, air bag, abs, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, climate control, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, blue, 130000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GS300, GS 300 SE, au52kdf, remote central locking, full leather, electric seats, head restraints, heated seats, rear armrest, power steering, cruise control, metallic paintwork, electric windows, electric mirrors, climate control, sunroof, cd player, radio, 16'' alloys, aluminium silver, 90000 miles, £6999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, GT 5dr, v674dnu, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 87000 miles, £2599, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

323, GXi D 5dr, ow52hsl, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, green, 94000 miles, £3499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA5, - 2.0 Sport 5dr, 1424649, mazda mazda 5 2.0 sport 5dr £9, 995.00, registration fm06otc sale price £9, 995.00, registered 2006 mileage 21045 miles, transmission manual body style estate, fuel type petrol exterior red, number of doors 5 interior, previous owners 0 interior trim, there are a variety of warranty options. please ask at dealership for details. red, £9995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MAZDA5, - 2.0d Ts2 5dr, 1273649, mazda mazda 5 2.0d ts2 5dr £13, 990.00, registration gj08pjo sale price £13, 990.00, registered 2008 mileage 5650 miles, transmission manual body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior grey, number of doors 5 interior black, previous owners 1 interior trim cloth, there are a variety of warranty options. please ask at dealership for details. demonstrator, car now reduced to £13990, grey, £13990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

RX8, - 190ps, 1074649, mazda rx-8 190ps £14, 290.00, registration gk57ruy sale price £14, 290.00, registered 2007 mileage 4275 miles, transmission manual body style coupe/sports, fuel type petrol exterior black, number of doors 4 interior black, previous owners 2 interior trim leather, there are a variety of warranty options. please ask at dealership for details. demonstration available, car now reduced to £14290, black, £14290, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A CLASS, A140 Avantgarde facelift model just 22000 miles, ej04ubl, remote alarm, remote central locking, half leather, rear headrests, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 15'' alloys, white dials, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, atoll blue metallic, 22000 miles, £7495, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

A CLASS, A160 Avantgarde facelift model with full leather, le02wdk, remote alarm, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, electric sunroof, cd player, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 49000 miles, £6995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

B-CLASS, 1.5 B150 SE Hatchback 5d 1498cc, 06, climate, alloys, cd, fsh, vat qualifying, please view our website to see our full stock, more b150 in stock, horizon blue with black cloth, under 32, 000 miles, £12495, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

B-CLASS, 1.5 B150 SE Hatchback 5d 1498cc, 06, 17'' 7-spoke alloys, sport pack, climate, cd, 1 owner, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, more b150 in stock, cosmos black with black half leather, under 18, 000 miles, £12995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

C-CLASS, 2.1TD C220 CDI Coupe 2d 2148cc auto, 05, evolution pack, 17'' alloys, climate, cruise, cd, 1 owner, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, more c220cdi coupe in stock, brilliant silver with two tone grey leather twin, under 44, 000 miles, £12995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

E-CLASS, 2.1TD E220 CDI Elegance Saloon 4d 2148cc auto, 54, climate, cd changer, twin spoke alloys, our demo, please view our website to view our full stock, more e220cdi saloon in stock, cubanite silver with black leather, under 49, 000 miles, £16995, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.3 Elegance Automatic, 2005, abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights half leather seats heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, steel grey, 950 miles, £7750, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 CZ1, 2006, abs body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, lunar silver, 3500 miles, £5995, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

I-CAR, 5dr Auto, 58, 20 miles, £9299, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, Warrior Leather D/Cab, gk07vyb, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, climate control, computer, electric mirrors, electric windows, leather upholstery, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, traction control. black, 12800 miles, £13994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

NISSAN

NISSAN PRIMASTAR 2700 SE, 09 2006, 1.9 dci 100 sold with manufacturers warranty swb elec windows 6 speed cd blue 36 mpg 5.000 miles as new, £8350, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ALMERA, S 5dr Auto, ef04 gfv, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, abs, twin air bags, power steering, blue/silver, 46000 miles, £3695, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

KUBISTAR, SE DCI 70, lc55xav, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, abs, air bag, metallic paintwork, cd player, ply-lined, tel. 01795 430295, aluminium silver, 45000 miles, £3795, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

BOXER 350, 06 2005, 2.8hdi sold with rac warranty 32 mpg lx lwb hi top fwd elec pack white 55.000 miles fsh, £5995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

EXPERT 900, 01 2006, 2.0 hdi sold with rac warranty 3 seats twin doors white 40.000 miles fsh mpg 36, £5750, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

106, 1.1 XL Hatchback 3Dr 1124cc, p/1997, manual windows central locking radio/cassette manual mirrors, red, 62, 000 miles, £1795, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE) **206**, S 5dr, av05tfo, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, rear headrests, folding rear seats, height adjustable seat, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, lunar mist, 20000 miles, £6995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

308, Sport, gl57lbn, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, trip computer, blue, 200 miles, £11995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911, 3.6 Carrera 2 Tiptronic S Coupe 2d 3596cc auto (2002), 07, 19'' turbo alloys, sat nav, phone module, rear parktronic, sports chrono pack, sports seats, sports suspension, sports exhaust, vts tracking system, rear wiper, premium carpet mats, climate, bose, cd, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, basalt black with black leather, only 3, 000 miles, £65000, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

RENAULT

KANGOO SL17, 09 2006, 1.5 dci 70 blue 35.000 miles fsh lined mpg 52 sold with manufactuers warranty, £3995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

RENAULT MASTER LH3500, 10 2006, 2.5 dci 120 lwb sold with manufactuers warranty hi top 6 speed ply lined air/con fsh 32.000 miles, £9440, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.4 Expression + Hatchback 5d 1390cc, 52 2002, remote central locking, electric windows, electric mirrors, electric sunroof, power assisted steering, twin srs, airbag, radio/cassette system, air conditioning, full body colour, service history, 1 owner. metallic silver, miles, £4795, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, EXTREME 2.0 16V, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 2000 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, storm blue, 15830 miles, £7495, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, 1.8 16v Dynamique Hatchback 5d 1783cc (2001), x, alloy wheels central locking, sunroof. red, miles, £2999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

MEGANE, OASIS 1.4, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1400 transmission: manual no. of doors: 1, blue, 21025 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

SCENIC, EXPRESSION 1.6 AUTO, 2004, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: automatic no. of doors: 5, extreme blue, 38000 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

25, Sei 16v 5dr, hy05 ukm, front fog lamps, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio,red, 10800 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, Linear TID 1.9, oct 2004 gf54wdc, two previous keepers, power steering, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, 32, 000 miles, £9, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE) **9-3**, 2.0t Linear 2dr, bg06ytj, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, electric front windows, electric windows, electric mirrors, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, trip computer, child locks, automatic electric windows, power hood, air conditioning, cd player, radio, stereo, 17'' alloys, yellow, 10041 miles, £12250, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

9-3 CONVERTIBLE, 26/06/2004, cd player abs leather hood cover alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser auto climate control electric windows, silver, 44568 miles, £9999, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALHAMBRA, SX TDi 1.9 130PS 5dr MPV, mar 2004 gj04wlg, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, front electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cassette, single cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, car alarm, cruise control, electricdoor mirrors, cool box, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, seven seats, 2 x integrated child seats. indigo blue metallic, 46, 500 miles, £11, 795, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9 TDi PD Stylance 7 Seat [130 PS] 5dr, 01/09/2004, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, 50327 miles, £8999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

IBIZA, 1.4 S 3dr, 2000, 1.4 s 3dr hatch, blue, 62022 miles, £2695, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

LEON, SX 1.6, 146637, finished in blue with interior, blue, 32000 miles, £5175, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LEON, CUPRA 1., gl04yyv, finished in silver with interior, silver, 40000 miles, £6995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

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ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, pas central locking electric windows, bright red, 15, 000 miles, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5d 1061cc, 04/2004, pas electric windows radio/cd player central locking, blue metallic, 19, 000 miles, £4395, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5Dr 1061cc, 53/2004, pas c/locking radio/cd player electric windows, bright yellow, 23, 000 miles, £3495, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

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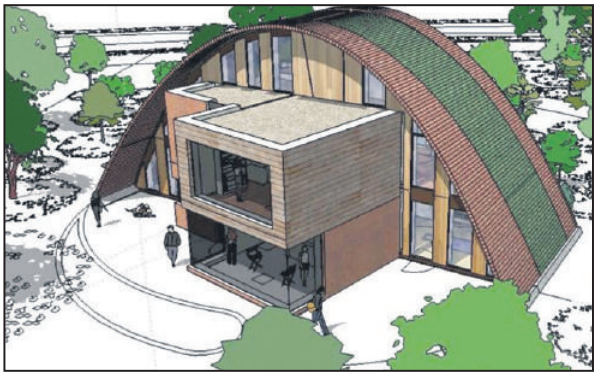
Shape of things to come

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

THE race is on to build the first zero-carbon housing in Kent, with two local firms straining at the starting blocks.

Folkestone-based Eco-librium Solutions, which specialises in environmentally responsible construction, has teamed up with national waste management company Hippowaste to carry out the project in Sittingbourne.

The house will have a vaulted roof, free-formed from clay tiles. Although a popular building method in Spain, this will be only the second such project here and the firm says this will be the first residential property to use it in the UK.



RADICAL CONCEPT: The vaulted roof design for the eco-house

Ana Rodrigues, director at Eco-librium, said: "This is a unique property that will ultimately be sustainable and environmentally innovative."

James Bennett, chief executive at Hippowaste, said; "The focus on sustainability and the environment here is a best practice approach that can be adopted elsewhere. Environmentally-friendly construction does not need to be difficult and can actually be cost-effective with good planning and waste management practices."

Meantime, Maidstone-based Da Vinci Properties has submitted an application to build 14 three and four-bedroom homes at a site, previously owned by Kent County Council, at Tovil, close to the centre of Maidstone, in what it believes to be the first complete zero-carbon housing development in Kent.

Managing director David Marks said: "Our development, should it get planning permission, will deliver practical, flexible and realistic living at a competitive price.

"This will not be everyone's cup of tea and will require purchasers to buy into the lifestyle of zero-carbon, but it is the future of our industry and we are keen to lead the way and show others that it can be done."



GRAEME DOWD

Plans for the houses include individual on-site micro-generation of electricity, individual and communal heating from pumps and biomass generation, and recycled rain and 'grey' water.

RPC Land and New Homes, which has offices across Kent, brokered the deal for the site. Area land director Graeme Dowd said the application was a sign of the building industry's willingness to adapt.

He said: "As land agents, who deal with a wide range of developers, we are seeing a greater diversification and adaptability from the building industry.

"Developments such as this are crucial as they show construction can be environmentally friendly."

Firms warned after gangmaster raids

A KENT recruitment firm has issued a warning over temporary workers after four county businesses were exposed as using labour from unlicensed gangmasters.

They were found out after raids by the Gangmasters' Licensing Authority on 26 county firms during the last two months and all were served with enforcement notices.

Although the notices are basically formal warnings, the authority could still take the businesses and individuals involved to court – where they could face fines or even imprisonment – but no decision has yet been taken.

The gangmasters involved will now be inspected, said the authority.

Gangmasters legislation was introduced two years ago, in response to the Morecambe Bay disaster when 18 cockle-pickers perished after being caught by the rising tide.

Now Maidstone-based Driver Hire has urged local businesses – particularly those involved in the horticulture, farming and food industries – hiring temporary labour to help with processing and packing, to double-check credentials of the organisation they are hiring them from.

Licensing of gangmasters is aimed at preventing the exploitation of an estimated 60,000 workers in the UK.

Under the regulations, labour providers supplying workers to agricultural businesses and the food processing industry are legally required to have a gangmasters licence. Equally, it is illegal for a business to hire workers from an unlicensed provider.

"To retain our gangmasters licence we must meet very stringent conditions," said Andrew Wright, owner of Driver Hire.

"I strongly recommend that anyone hiring workers involved in the picking, processing and packing of products such as fruit, vegetables and seafood, makes sure they are dealing with a supplier that holds a GLA licence.

"That way they know the workers they are using aren't being exploited. And, equally important, they are not running the risk of a fine or court appearance."

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Plenty of orders in the pipeline



ON A ROLL: Hi-tech equipment can locate pipe defects

THE weak pound is good news for exporters and it has certainly boosted a Kent-based designer and manufacturer of award-winning test and inspection equipment, ***writes Tony Patey***.

Exports at Buckleys (UVRAL) are booming and the company has invested more than £25,000 in upgrading production facilities at its Hythe factory to help cope with a bulging order book.

In a typical year, about a half of its products are exported, via a network of distributors, to customers in Russia, the US, Australasia, Europe and the Middle East. But this year, a sharp dip in UK sales caused by the economic downturn in the building sector has been more than offset by surging demand in overseas markets.

Managing director Paul Hoveman said: "We are seeing exports up by about 12 per cent compared with this time last year."

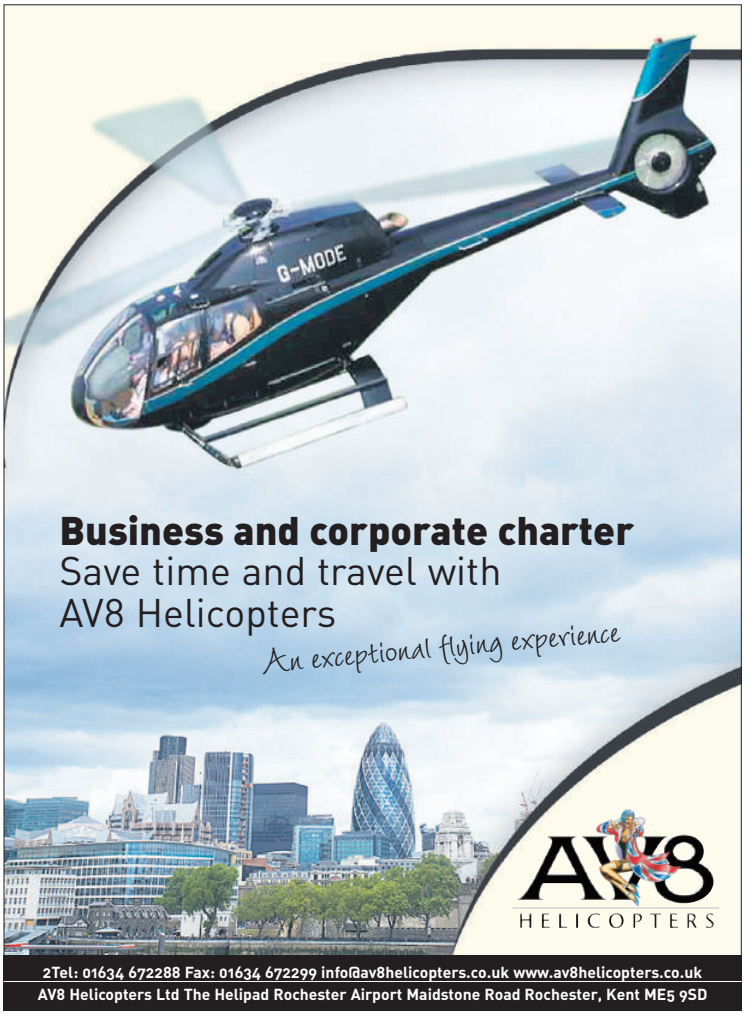
Russia, in particular, is a growing market with new facilities built to serve the country's powerful, oil-rich elite and a growing band of international tourists. All this construction work is good news for Buckleys, which has been in business for 66 years.

The independent firm makes detectors and testers for locating faults and defects in coatings and linings, and pipeline inspection trolleys plus products for monitoring corrosion in underwater structures.

Its roof testing kits have been used in projects throughout the UK, including Manchester's Trafford Centre and Arsenal FC's Emirates Stadium.

Mr Hoveman said: "Thousands of our kits are in daily use in Britain and around the world and have earned a reputation for reliability, accuracy and durability."

Contractors use kits to find pinholes and other defects by passing a high voltage over the roof surface using a brush or roller electrode. They are also used in the petro-chemical and pipeline construction industries and with surgical instruments.



Redundancy double whammy

KENT bosses already struggling to meet wage bills could face a double whammy by failing to keep to the letter of the law when it comes to redundancies.

So says Ashford-based specialists Calibre HR & Training. And with firms typically making more than one mistake, they could be risking total fines of nearly £80,000.



Calibre says that while it's possible to fall foul of employment law in several areas when making redundancies, it is seeing frequent oversights on two main legal points: failing to consult with staff over redundancy proposals; and not informing individuals who are being made redundant they have a right of appeal. Director Tara Lloyd, pictured, said: "We are not in the business of scaremongering. When a small business is struggling, the management team will have enough on its plate already. But too often we are coming across employers failing from the outset to fully meet their legal obligations when it comes to redundancies. You only have to look at the employment tribunals to see the consequences.

"Problems can start at the beginning of the process when redundancies are first being considered. While some errors can be rectified down the line, not every legal slip can be corrected when the wheels are in motion."

The firm has published two free factsheets. One includes advice on restructuring to improve efficiencies while the second is a detailed overview of how to manage a redundancy programme as effectively and positively as possible.

Net helps Lee get to grips with success



LEE JACOBS

A TOP UK martial arts instructor has swapped the classroom for a laptop to become an internet entrepreneur.

Lee Jacobs, 30, of Sittingbourne, who is the country's second highest ranked Wing Tsun trainer, has bought thrusting internet business Villa Marine Lifestyles for an undisclosed sum.

With ambitious plans to turn the company into a multi-million pound firm within three years, Lee claims the net played a big part in realising his dream.

He said: "The internet has opened up the marketplace and created a level playing field so entrepreneurs no longer have to go through a lengthy traditional start-up process to enjoy business success.

"The internet has also given rise to a lot of new working practices, including remote and home working, and mobile offices, which have allowed budding entrepreneurs to build a business with minimal outlay while often juggling a day job.

"From the age of 14 I have been involved in running numerous successful Kent businesses, including a panel beater firm, a garden furniture export company as well as a martial arts training school.

"Villa is an exciting challenge, but I believe thanks to the internet and the entrepreneurial skills I've acquired in business over the years, I'll have a great chance of realising my ambition."

Mr Jacobs is married and has two children.

Villa was set up in 2005 and sells websites publicising property, yachts and lifestyle companies, such as hotels, restaurants, golf clubs and diving schools, in a country or region.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Experts will have much to digest at Brands breakfast

A LEADING official at the Bank of England will be talking about the economic outlook for Kent during a high-profile breakfast meeting next month.

Tim Pike, deputy agent for the South East at the bank, will be speaking to 200 property experts, developers and investors from Kent and Medway at the launch of this year's Kent Property Market Report.

The event will be at the Brands Hatch Motorsport Vision Conference Centre on Wednesday, October 22, and the report will examine how the county's property market is performing and provide an insight into regeneration projects and the commercial, retail, tourism, leisure and residential property sectors.

The report is written by Kent County Council and Cluttons, produced by investment promotion agency Locate in Kent and is supported by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and law firm Cripps Harries Hall.

2012 fines await unwary firms

KENT small companies hoping to cash in on the London Olympics are being warned they have to watch their words in advertising or face penalties.

Words such as "gold", "bronze", "medals" and "game" – and even "summer" and "2012" – can't go together in any advertising nearer the time, according to the grandly titled 2006 London Olympic Games and Paralympics Games Act.

Fines could total £20,000, but the Chartered Institute of Marketing, the international body for marketing and business development, says few businesses know about the rules.

David Thorp, director of research and information, said that with sponsorship limited to just a few global brands, many firms will miss out.

The law idea goes back to the 2000 Sydney Games to protect official sponsors' investments.

Make a grab for rebate lifeline after Lords ruling

By **TONY PATEY**
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COMPANIES in Kent could be failing to grab a potential lifeline during the credit crunch which could bring them extra cash.

Act fast on the chance to claim VAT rebates ranging from tens of thousands to several million pounds or miss out, warns KPMG.

With the deadline for rebate submissions being the end of March next year, and claims typically taking several months to compile and agree, companies risk running out of time to apply for refunds.

In fact, says KPMG, many businesses may be unaware that refunds can relate to VAT either mistakenly overpaid or rebates that were under-claimed in a 24-year period – between 1973 and 1997.

It all stems from a decision in the House of Lords in January which said the introduction of a 'three-year cap' on back-dated claims in 1996 was invalid in so far as it failed to include transitional arrangements for taxpayers making any claims relating to periods prior to May, 1997.

Andy Rogers, from the indirect tax team at KPMG in Gatwick, said: "The door is open for 24 years' worth of VAT claims, from 1973 when the UK joined the EU to 1997 when the law was changed.

"Many companies we have spoken to about their eligibility to submit claims were completely unaware the opportunity even existed, perhaps because 1997 is such a long time ago.

"But if businesses don't act quickly, they run a risk of losing out as all claims must be submitted by the end of March, 2009.

"This is much sooner than it may appear as the process for putting a claim together, involving extrapolating back as records dating to the early seventies will not be available.

"This can be time consuming. Leaving it too late could prove very costly."

According to KPMG, in some cases, VAT rebates could make all the difference to a business's survival during the economic downturn.

Much to gain from training

EMPLOYERS and workers across Kent in sectors including engineering, construction and hospitality took part in a range of challenges to show off their skills as part of the second anniversary of the Train to Gain initiative.

More than 1,700 employers across Kent are using the service, which is run by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), the organisation aimed at making England better skilled and more competitive.

For example, Riverview Junior School in Gravesend, which has 470 pupils, trained two catering staff in professional cookery through the initiative, with Lorraine Wilmshurst and Angela Pharo completing their Level 2 NVQ.

The LSC's Train to Gain provider, North West Kent College of Technology, carried out the training at Riverview Junior and at the Gravesend campus nearby. There are a host of other providers throughout the county.

Another of them, Mainstream, has seen an increase in a demand for advanced driving skills for professional drivers of fork-lift trucks, articulated vehicles and construction machines and is working with businesses including Lidl and Boots.

About 70,000 employees across the South East have benefited from Train to Gain so far, which offers training from basic literacy and numeracy skills, right up to higher level management and leadership skills. To find out more, visit www.traintogainse.co.uk or call 08457 512288.



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Guidance amid the confusion



EXPERT ADVICE: Nicola Rostron of Furley Page

ONE year after a big change in complex laws governing powers of attorney people are as confused as ever, says a Kent lawyer.

Nicola Rostron, associate and senior solicitor in the private client team at regional law firm Furley Page, said: "Since October, 2007, the Mental Capacity Act has had a major impact on powers of attorney, introducing new lasting powers of attorney (LPA) to replace enduring powers of attorney (EPA).

"There are two types of LPAs which are made by a 'donor'. The first deals with property and affairs and gives the attorney authority to act in the donor's financial matters.

"The second relates to personal welfare issues such as health, medical treatment, where to live, what to wear, what to eat, who to see. But the attorney can only make decisions if the donor has lost capacity."

Despite the complexities there are clear advantages to the new law, she said. Although LPAs are much lengthier than EPAs, the donor remains able to conduct their own affairs – either with the attorney or independently. Another safeguard is that an independent certificate provider must confirm the donor understands the nature and effect of the LPA and also doesn't feel unduly pressured to make it. The provider must be someone of the donor's choice and over 18, and certain restrictions apply.

Ms Rostron said: "In relation to both types of LPA, the attorneys are unable to act until the document is registered with the Office of the Public Guardian.

"Due to the length of time it takes to register, my advice to anyone considering making a power of attorney is to get the appropriate advice as soon as possible."

Furley Page has branches in Canterbury, Chatham and Whitstable.

Separation rights issue not helped by postponement

A GOVERNMENT decision to postpone indefinitely proposals by the Law Commission to give unmarried couples the same rights on separation as married counterparts will do nothing to solve a complex legal situation, says a Kent lawyer.

Susi Gillespie, family law specialist at Furley Page, said: "Living together is becoming a more usual life choice than marriage, but the reality is it can make a huge difference to the way the court looks at finances on separation.

"The rights of cohabitees are not the same as married couples, particularly when it comes to property."

Put simply, says Ms Gillespie – who divides her time between Canterbury and the firm's recently opened Chatham office – if you marry and divorce, the court divides your property and income on the basis of what is fair, bearing in mind the needs of your children, your own needs and resources, and the length of your marriage. If you are unmarried, your ex-partner may be obliged to provide your children with a home until they are older, but your own rights are very limited.

You may be entitled to the use of your partner's home while the children live there, but the amount of money you receive will be calculated on your contribution to its acquisition rather than on what you need.

Child support or help with education expenses may be forthcoming, but you won't receive maintenance from your partner in your own right. And you won't get a share of your partner's pension either, however long the relationship lasted.

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First Aid Appointed Person (FAAP)	1 Day	23rd Oct	£75

For further details on these and other courses available or information about our extensive range of Health and Safety Services, please contact our Office Manager, Vi Cowie on 01732 887322 or email vi@safetycouk.com

Movers & Shakers

AN AWARD-winning young solicitor who specialises in family law has been appointed by regional solicitors Furley Page.

Sally Barter, 32, joins the firm's family law team – based in Canterbury – having practised as a litigation clerk and a trainee solicitor for five years before qualifying. She will advise clients on a range of issues including divorce, financial disputes, children's issues, domestic violence and cohabitation disputes.

She graduated from the University of London with a 2:1 in German with French and was awarded a post- graduate diploma in law in 2002 at the BPP Law School, London.

Mother of two Sally, pictured right, passed a Legal Practice Course with distinction at Guildford's College of Law in 2007 when she won the Surrey Resolution Family Law Prize for gaining the highest mark, 92 per cent, in the family law elective.



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Rapid progress leads to another accolade

NORTH Kent's 'Mr Fastrack', David George, project manager of the popular and innovative showcase bus system, has won top prize for project leader in the first Passenger Transport Management Awards.

At a London ceremony, Mr George, who is part of the Kent Thameside Regeneration Partnership team, was presented with his award by Peter Hendy, the Transport Commissioner for London and chair of the Commission for Integrated Transport.

Fastrack – technically a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system – has dedicated bus lanes to allow fast movement, opened in March, 2006, and has carried more than 4.5 million passengers on its 16-mile network. Along the way it has attracted national and international attention.

It connects Gravesend and Dartford town centres, Ebbsfleet International, Bluewater, Darent Valley Hospital, and other key locations. This is the fourth national award for Fastrack in two years. Previous accolades include the National Transport Awards 2007, Bus Award; UK Bus Awards 2007, Innovation Award; and UK Bus Awards 2007, Infrastructure Award.



POLE POSITION: Fastrack's 16-mile network has attracted worldwide attention

The judges said of Fastrack: "It has been highly successful in attracting customers and all have praised the attention to detail which has enabled such a successful launch of the first two phases of the project.

"In managing the project since 1999, David has developed a bold and innovative approach and dealt effectively with a wide range of stakeholders and partners."

Stephen Jordan, chairman of Fastrack and vice-chairman of Kent Thameside Regeneration Partnership, said: "Many of the 4.5 million passengers were tempted out of their cars to rely on this high quality transport system that links communities with the 50,000 new jobs being created and the 30,000 new homes being built."

Kent County Council cabinet member for regeneration Kevin Lynes said: "This award is a real tribute to David George. His undoubted expertise has been instrumental in making Fastrack such a great success."



PROUD DAY: David George with the latest award for Fastrack

Nurturing a growth industry

SUSTAINABILITY issues top the agenda in nearly every industry – not least those within the rural sector.

Hadlow College is hoping research being undertaken by the faculty of horticulture could encourage changes that would have benefits for commercial growers and the environment.

The Hadlow trials involve growing peppers hydroponically on a semi-commercial scale on four different growing media to compare viability with the use of Rockwool.

Manufacture of Rockwool, the most widely used hydroponic growing medium, involves processes carried out at high temperatures that take a lot of energy. And because no secondary use has been found for obsolete Rockwool it is consigned to landfill. The three other mediums on trial at Hadlow – Fytocell, Ekofibre and Coir – have so far not resulted in yield reductions.

Fytocell is a polymer of urea and formaldehyde which is created at low temperatures. Ekofibre consists of lignin cellulose wood fibres harvested from sustainable forests.

Coir, manufactured from the fibrous husk of coconut, is completely organic. Unprocessed, it would be a waste product.

At the end of the cropping period, all three mediums can be composted, providing growers with a useful by-product. The trials, which began in 2007, will continue next year and production will be doubled. The college is working towards Assured Produce Accreditation so it can supply leading retailers. In the meantime, the peppers are harvested weekly and delivered to local farm shops, restaurants and pubs.

Kent isn't known as the Garden of England for nothing and is home to many world-class growers.

Commercial horticulture is set to expand in line with the need to produce more of our own food, but at the same time we must consider the environment. The trials at Hadlow could produce significant benefits and confirm the college as a leader in the provision of education and training for the horticulture industry.

Movers & Shakers

NEW chief executive at rural insurer NFU Mutual is Lindsay Sinclair, pictured right.



He has taken over from Ian Geden, who will retire at the end of the year.

Sir Don Curry, chairman, said: "It has been a difficult task to find a replacement for Ian. His vision, skill and professionalism have made an incredible impact and the board is indebted for all he has done.

"I am delighted that we have been successful in appointing Mr Sinclair, who comes with an impressive track record."

Mr Sinclair said: "I admire NFU Mutual's business model. It is very customer focused. I respect its values, which are very much in line with my own. I look forward to contributing to this winning team."

He has managed retail banking operations over the last 25 years for ING, Standard Chartered and Barclays, and has worked in the UK, USA, Hong Kong, Holland, the West Indies, Middle East and South Asia.

He set up and ran the first pan-Asian insurance business for Standard Chartered.

NFU Mutual has more than 300 offices in towns and villages throughout the UK and is recognised as a leading rural insurer, offering a range of products, including general insurance, life insurance, pensions, investments, and risk management services.

These products and services are carried out through the agency network, as well as through a direct sales and service centre.

WORK MATTERS

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Q In view of the current economic situation my business only requires one person to deal with marketing. However, I currently employ 3 people to do marketing. Who should I make redundant?

A If an employer simply dismisses an employee without first considering the question of a pool of employees from which the redundancies are to be made, the dismissal is likely to be unfair. Since you have already identified the pool, you need to make sure whether any of the jobs in your company are interchangeable and if there are other groups of employees performing identical work before making a clear statement of whose jobs are at risk.

Once the pool of employees is confirmed you need to implement a selection criteria. The selection criteria must be objective and carefully defined so that they can be fairly and consistently applied to each employee. Selection criteria for redundancy may include some kind of measure of skills, qualifications, aptitude or performance. When devising a selection criteria you should be cautious if you intend to include a length of service criteria or "last in first out" as this may expose you to an age discrimination claim. You also run the risk of it being indirectly discriminatory against female employees because they tend to have shorter service due to, for example, breaks to have children.

Be careful also if attendance is used as a criteria as in particular circumstances this may trigger a disability discrimination claim. Also ensure that absence due to pregnancy-related illness and absence on maternity or other family-friendly leave is discounted.

Baileyfields offer a number of employment law solutions for businesses. For more information about how Baileyfields can protect your business call 01233 822537 or visit www.baileyfields.com.

Work matters is provided as an overview of workplace issues and should not be taken as legal advice. Please contact us for advice specific to your circumstances.

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Give yourself permission to prepare for the upswing

WITH market experts predicting 2010 as the year when South East house prices start to rise again, a Kent property chief is urging landowners to start making provision for planning permission now.

Current wisdom is that the housing market slowdown will continue into 2009 with the first signs of recovery coming probably the following year – and the South East is the most likely region to experience the first upturn.



ACT NOW: Peter Randall of RPC

Peter Randall, managing director of RPC Land and New Homes, said: "Landowners who have sites with or without residential planning permission may have been put off selling due to the slowdown.

"However, with permissions only lasting three years and the length of time it can take to obtain planning permission, it may be advisable to act now as the notoriously slow planning system could present problems.

"Achieving planning permission is becoming an increasingly expensive and complicated process. A shortage of skilled and trained planners, as well as an increase in red tape, means it can now take six to 18 months to get a decision.

"So hitting the market is all about timing. Planning consents used to last five years but now it is only three, so it's important not to sit on a site and to get professional advice to plan a strategy for the coming years.

"Just because you have planning consent does not mean a sale is necessarily straightforward, all consents come with conditions and it is very important that those conditions are fulfilled prior to expiration or a renewal of the existing consent obtained."

Failure to do so could mean delay in sale, loss of consent or an expensive new application with further time delays.

Mr Randall's firm has specialist centres covering west Kent, mid Kent, east Kent and the Thames Gateway.

Heart of the town

A MAJOR freehold retail opportunity in Maidstone town centre has come up through Cluttons LLP of Albion Place.

In the heart of the county town, 87-88 Bank Street provides an exceptional and unique freehold opportunity for retail and leisure occupiers, says the agent.

Now vacant, the property has huge potential for refurbishment.

The Grade-II listed building is at the top end of the street, close to the main shopping area.

Many will remember this landmark building from the time it was occupied by popular haberdashers Loader and Payne.

The property is a striking, mid-terrace, three-storey building with a double frontage.

The ground-floor retail area is open plan with a large galleried area to the rear. In total the property occupies 15,400 sq ft.

Bank Street, enclosed by Middle Row, is an increasingly popular evening quarter with Kala Red, V-Bar, JP's, Banks and Project Blue thriving on the evening trade.

For more details, contact sandy.yau@cluttons.com or 01622 756000; or richard.turnill@cluttons.com or call 01622 756000.

Movers & Shakers

STUART Etherington, chief executive of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, has been appointed chair of court at the University of Greenwich, which has a campus in Medway.

His main responsibilities will be to ensure that the court, the main governing and decision-making body, works effectively and efficiently and observes the principles of public life.

Mr Etherington also takes the title of pro-chancellor. In this role, he plays a part in the university's graduation ceremonies, which are held each summer and autumn. The principal venues are the cathedral at Rochester and the Chapel of the Old Royal Naval College at Greenwich. He succeeds Lady Anne-Marie Nelson.

ROYAL Bank of Scotland's invoice finance division has appointed Steve Clarke as regional director for the south of England.

Having worked at RBS for three-and-a-half years, Mr Clarke, pictured right, was formerly a business development director and head of origination for the corporate banking division in the Thames Valley.



In his new role he will manage a team of seven relationship directors based across the South, who manage asset-based lending solutions for customers and businesses with turnovers above £25 million. The invoice finance team works closely with colleagues from across the RBS Group, which includes Lombardand Global Transaction Services.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

FIXED

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.54% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/12/2010 **OD:** £1,759

BRISTOL & WEST
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.69% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/10/2011 **OD:** £1,194

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.74% **L:** 75% **U:** 02/12/2010 **OD:** £1,475

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.84% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/10/2011 **OD:** £1,295

OTHER

CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 4.99% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/10/2010 **OD:** £1,884

HALIFAX
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.59% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/12/2010 **OD:** £2,274

BM SOLUTIONS
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.59% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS **OD:** £1,065

NATIONWIDE
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.63% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS **OD:** £2,019

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MALE AGED 25		MALE AGED 40		FEMALE AGED 25		FEMALE AGED 40	
LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.55	ZURICH	£18.12	LV=	£6.33	ZURICH	£14.65
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£8.47	NORWICH UNION	£18.19	LEGAL & GENERAL	£6.35	LUTINE ASSURANCE	£14.80
LV=	£8.47	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£18.48	NORWICH UNION	£6.78	NORWICH UNION	£15.01
AXA	£8.51	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£18.72	LUTINE ASSURANCE	£7.25	LEGAL & GENERAL	£15.05
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£8.60	LEGAL & GENERAL	£18.95	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£7.27	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£15.24
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£8.70	LUTINE ASSURANCE	£19.01	AXA	£7.34	SCOTTISH PROVIDNT	£15.30
NORWICH UNION	£8.75	LV=	£19.09	LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.40	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£15.43

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Reeves driving for triple title success

Sidecar ace sets tough target for next season

By TOM HOWARD

TIM Reeves has set himself a target of three titles next season after yet another history-making year for the former three-time World Sidecar champion.

The Tenterden-born racer was left frustrated last weekend after he missed out on claiming his fourth consecutive world title by three points at the final round of the series at Le Mans – despite winning the race.

Reeves, who held the world title since 2005 and finished third in this year's Isle of Man TT, is determined to take the title back next season and feels his mechanical failure in Croatia cost him dearly.

He said: "Next season I want to win the British and World titles and the Isle of Man TT, so I will be putting in a lot more effort over the winter.

"I will be fired up to take the title next season after losing by just two more points. If it wasn't for our head gasket failure in Croatia we would have wrapped up the title there and then. I am a little bit biased but I think the fastest team lost the title this year. We won four races compared to the Finns who won just three."

The world championship went right down to the wire as Finnish pair Pekka Paivarinta and Timo Kartiala claimed the title because they earned enough points for finishing second in the final race, behind Reeves and passenger Patrick Farrance.

Reeves said: "I did everything I could to win the title. I even started to slow my pace while I was in the lead to try and help the rest of the field catch up so they could try and overtake Pekka, but it was not to be."

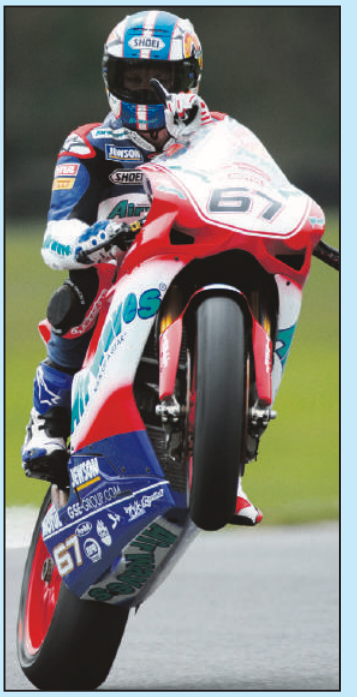


DETERMINED: Tim Reeves at the Isle of Man TT, and with passenger Patrick Farrance (right), is confident he can reclaim his mantle as world champion next season



Despite missing out on the world title, Reeves had another memorable year racing sidecars as he clinched the British F1 Championship with a 100 per cent record. However, his highlight was finishing third on his Isle of Man TT debut in June, the best performance by a debutant for 30 years.

He said: "It has been a fantastic year. To come third on my debut at the Isle of Man TT was amazing and I cannot wait to go back there and win this time. We won the British title, which was great, especially in the way we won it."



WHEELY THEIR: Shane 'Shakey' Byrne

Shakey a win away from title

SHANE Byrne is aiming to claim the British Superbike Championship after the first race at this weekend's round at Silverstone.

The Sheppey racer had his lead at the top cut to 94 points after finishing fifth and fourth at Croft in the previous round.

However, Byrne knows a win in this weekend's first race at Silverstone will net him the title – in fact finishing anywhere in the top ten will see him victorious.

"I'm a bit disappointed not to have won the title in the previous round at Croft, but now I'm fully refreshed and heading to Silverstone where I have a very good chance of taking it," he said.

"I like to be on maximum attack, riding on the limit, but I have to ensure that I don't fall down and that I take the championship – it will be good to get the job done in the first race at Silverstone."

The championship leader was frustrated with the way the races panned out at Croft as he was also in a position to win the title if he conceded less than nine points to second-placed Tom Sykes.

Byrne's team-mate, Leon Camier, from Ashford, hopes to follow up his first place finish at Croft with another podium finish when the race starts on Sunday.

He said: "Although I was disappointed not to have got on to the podium in the second race, winning race one at Croft was a huge confidence boost so I'm really looking forward to Silverstone and hopefully getting back on the top step of the podium.

"Until we get some laps under our belt I'm not too sure how the Airwaves Ducati will work around there but I know that the whole of the team will work hard to give me the best possible package come race day."



TEAM-MATE: Leon Camier won at Croft

Wins cap Touring team's best season

MOTORBASE Performance saved their best for last at Brands Hatch as they capped of their most successful season in style, ***writes Tom Howard.***

The Wrotham-based team, created in 2004, ended the British Touring Car Championship season with a flourish after three podium finishes at their home circuit of Brands Hatch last weekend.

Owner David Bartrum said: "I really am so proud of what we have achieved and through the whole season. It was tremendous to take our first double podium in the BTCC.

"The drivers did a fantastic job and to top it off with yet another podium in the last race was just the icing on the cake."

Managed by former racer Bartrum, Motorbase Performance have been the surprise package of the season, steadily improving from meeting to meeting.

Working with two new BMW's and two new drivers in Steven Kane and Rob Collard, the team struggled early on with accidents at the opening round at Brands Hatch in March.



DOUBLE WIN: Motorbase Performance

Rockingham and Thruxton followed and proved to be difficult weekends, but from Croft onwards, points finishes were becoming a regular occurance.

The team turned a corner at Snetterton in July and picked up their first ever podium with Kane. They made sure it was not a fluke with another podium at Knockhill with Collard.

However, the best was saved for their home circuit and the final round of the championship, as Kane and Collard finished second and third in the first race. In the final race they followed that up with a third place for Kane.

Racing and beating works teams Seat and Vauxhall with the vast difference in budgets was a highlight for Bartrum and his team, who have come a long way in a short time.

He is hoping that his independent team can find the backing needed to enter the 2009 season so they can improve and achieve their first victory.

Bartrum added: "We started the year with a new car and new drivers and we have managed to improve steadily over the year to the point where we are now in contention for a podium in most races.

"I have to thank my whole team, they have done an unbelievable job. Hopefully we will now be able to attract the financial backing to come back again next season and set our sights on a title from the start."

Conway eyeing up Indy drive



OPPORTUNITY: Mike Conway

KENT Formula One hopeful Mike Conway may be turning his attentions away from GP2 next season to join America's Indycar series.

The Sevenoaks racer, who is a test driver for the Honda Formula One team, has caught the attention of two teams in the Indycar Series after a successful test with Panther Racing last month.

Conway topped the time sheets at the Sears Point circuit in California in his first-ever run in an Indycar. One race seat at the Panther Racing team has already been secured by and former Indycar champion Dan Wheldon. It appears Conway is being considered alongside former Formula One driver Anthony Davidson for the remaining seat for the 2009 season.

It has been reported that although Conway enjoyed his Indycar experience he is keeping his options open, but still harbours dreams of a Formula One drive.

Conway has had a mixed second season in F1 feeder series GP2, picking up nine points finishes including his first ever race win in the formula on the streets of Monaco.

The victory in Monaco from pole position was the highlight for Conway as he scored just one point more than last season and ended up 12th in the driver standings.



SUPPORT: Ebbsfleet is targeting 20,000 MyFootballClub website owners

The stakes are high for Fleet's web owners

EBBSFLEET United will not be in trouble if the target of 20,000 MyFootballClub members to renew their membership is not reached, according to creator Will Brooks.

The internet site launched 16 months ago, which consists of 30,000 football fans paying a £35 subscription, bought a controlling stake in the Blue Square Premier League side in January.

The concept sees the 30,000 fans who became joint owners of the football club able to have a say in all decisions affecting the club, including picking the team.

It is almost a year since the takeover was first announced last November. Although some members have been left disillusioned by the new concept, Brooks feels confident in reaching the 20,000 renewal target.

He said: "By looking at the activity on the website, we calculated around 16,000-17,000 members regularly use it. It is very hard to say what will happen when it is the time for members to renew.

"There are members who are not happy but I feel it is the noisy minority. We have delivered with our promises, but I feel for some of them there is no way of turning them around whatever we do.

"I believe the interest is still there, you only have to look at votes on meaningful decisions, such as the John Akinde transfer."

Brooks is aware that the target of 20,000 may not be reached but has assured fans the club will not be in trouble.

He said: "Obviously there is a chance that we may not make the target but I do not think it will leave the club in trouble. If only one member renews then obviously something would have to be done, but if we get a number around the 20,000 mark then the club will break even."

Where respect is due

Campaign makes its mark on county game

By GLENN PEARSON

THE RESPECT campaign is already beginning to take shape in Kent after 17 of its 39 leagues signed up to the programme.

The campaign was launched by the Kent County FA in December last year – three months before the Football Association – with the aim of improving relations not just among players and match officials, but also to address issues of spectators' behaviour, particularly in youth football.

Last year, 7,000 referees were recruited into the game but the same figure departed at the end of the season.

John Newson, Referees Development Officer, was hired last year by the Kent FA to help buck this trend.

He admits the introduction of the Respect campaign in Kent has helped improve relations between referees, players and spectators.

He said: "My main aim is to retain referees. Recruitment of referees is not too much of a problem, it is stopping them falling off the other end.

"Leagues that have adopted the Respect campaign have put codes of conduct in and clubs are realising that if they do not behave, they will not have referees.

"It doesn't always have to be about players being respectful to referees, it has to be the other way round too. There are ways of being able to speak to players and that can certainly be improved."

An incident in Thanet at the beginning of the month proves how difficult it is sometimes for officials to deal with spectators.

A 16-year-old acting as a fourth official for a memorial game between Albion Athletic and Birchington United Services Club, was allegedly hit and kicked in the head for asking spectators to refrain from smoking and shouting abuse.

He was taken to hospital but has since recovered and refereed two games the following weekend.

Newson admits it is difficult to prevent this type of thing happening.

"Unfortunately we are still getting the odd idiot who is making life difficult for referees, but that appears to be a fact of life," he said. "Leagues that are getting involved are getting it across to their teams and it appears to be working."



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

SHAKE ON IT: Middlesbrough and Bolton players shake hands prior to kick-off as part of the Respect campaign which encourages good behaviour on and off the pitch

Premiership referee Steve Bennett has noticed a marked improvement in the relationship between players and referees as a result of the new campaign, and admits it was an issue that needed addressing.

He said: "I think primarily the FA realised the image of the game was not good. It has always been that what happens at the top, filters down to the grassroots of the game.

"We are all fully aware of our responsibilities at the top level.

"Now the use of captains has been very beneficial and there is a number of them that that will help the referee run the game."

While the issue of respect between players and referees has long been highlighted in the media, there are other situations where the game has become tarnished due to the behaviour of club officials and spectators.

Phil Knight doubles up as chairman of Canterbury City and referees across Kent in the Ryman Leagues, Kent League and youth leagues.

He feels the campaign has had an immediate effect, but has called on other leagues across the county to follow suit and sign up.

He said: "Whatever the FA can do to return to the key principles of the game is good. The way the campaign is working in youth football is really exciting. We should not be surprised that parents are passionate and get carried away watching a game, but what the Respect campaign does is remind parents of their responsibilities.

"The Respect campaign will also help behaviour on the field of play. It is a really exciting campaign that is long overdue."

Knight too commented on the improved relationship with players, due to being able to work with the captain. It is an approach that has been adopted in rugby for a number of years.

The City chairman and referee believes the campaign has already made significant strides, but there is still a long way to go.

He said: "There are always going to be difficulties but it is a campaign rather than just a two-week fix programme that dies a death.

"The key element is that it's self-management and self-governing and involves clubs dealing with issues themselves.

"What we have to do is get the clubs taking responsibility and dealing with their own issues. When we get to the stage of clubs regulating themselves, players and parents, then the job is done."

KENT LEAGUES SIGNED UP TO THE RESPECT CAMPAIGN

SENIOR

Bulmers Kent League
Vandanel Kent County League
Sheppey Sunday League
Medway Sunday League
Orpington and Bromley District Sunday League
South London Football League
Maidstone and Mid Kent Sunday Football League
Belmonte Thanet and District Sunday League
Kent Suburban Sunday League

JUNIOR

Molton East Kent Youth League
Weald of Kent Friendly League
Valley Express Kent Youth League
Kent Girls and Ladies Football League
Express Cabs Maidstone Boys Primary League
Maidstone Invicta Primary League
Medway Youth League



YOUNG GUN: Charlie Daniels Picture: KEITH SLATER

Stimson confident of promotion

AFTER having played eight games in League Two already this season, Gillingham manager Mark Stimson is confident his side have what it takes to get promotion at the first time of asking.

Having seen his side occupy a place in the play-offs earlier in the campaign, Stimson believes his players can bounce back after the ignominy of relegation last season.

He said: 'We have played quite a few teams this season and from what I have seen, I am more than comfortable that we will have enough.

"But talk is cheap. There are times you have to go out there and roll your sleeves up and play through a bit of pain. If you do get promoted, that pain is forgotten about."

With a tight budget, it has been difficult for Stimson to get new players into the club on permanent deals, which has meant he has been forced to dip into the loan market.

While Leigh Mills, Charlie Daniels and new signing Andy Barcham have all arrived from Tottenham on loan, Stimson admits it makes it difficult trying to get a settled side.

He said: "It is hard when you take players on loan for one or two months and after a few weeks you have to think about whether that player wants to be with you.

"If we could keep our 11 starters, for a period of time, the players obviously get to know each other and your results pick up."

The Gills supremo has kept an eye on his players who have gone out on loan in the last few weeks and has confirmed that they all have futures at the club, as far as he is concerned.

"I think Nicky [Southall] has played in most of the games and that is what we want him to do. Charlie Howard has been at Dulwich and has played a lot of football.

"Sean Clohessy went away to Salisbury and scored last weekend so it can only be good for them.

"The main reasons for them to go out was to get fitter and stronger, then when they get the opportunity here it is up to them to show me they should be in the team."

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‘I have got the Olympics out of my system’



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

Top track athlete Lisa Dobriskey reflects on a breakthrough season with TOM HOWARD

THE AGONY of finishing fourth in the Olympic 1500 metre final has failed to dampen the spirits of Kent athlete Lisa Dobriskey, who feels the experience helped transform her from an amateur to an elite athlete.

The 24-year-old ends her Olympic season after next week’s Great North Run where she hopes to defend her mile title.

Impressive

Many Olympic athletes chose to end their season after the Beijing Games, but Dobriskey who narrowly missed out on a medal, decided to keep racing.

The decision proved to be the correct one as she posted impressive performances in the IAAF Grand Prix in Italy and picked up the Manhattan Mile title last week.

Dobriskey has felt the highs and the lows of what the Olympics and athletics can bring this season.

The Ashford runner feels she can now move on from her Beijing disappointment and can now be considered as an elite athlete.

She told Kent on Sunday: “To keep going has been good as I have got my form back. I think I have got the Olympics out of my system now.

“This season was always going to be difficult and everything I did was for the Olympics. Once you actually get to the point of the Olympic final you know it means so much and it is so important. I think it overwhelmed me a bit.

“However, I have learnt such a lot from it and to keep running races was a good decision. It has been nice to be able to run without the pressure and relax.”

Despite not claiming a medal at the Games, the Kent athlete has gained a wealth of experience which she says helped her take the New York Mile title last week.

“It was a really hard event to be honest, as it was just a straight line of a course which was tough,” she said. “To beat Shannon Rowberry on her own turf was good and there were a couple of Kenyans which showed the class of the field.

“It has definitely been my best ever season in terms of progression. I would describe it as a breakthrough year. I have learnt such a lot from all my experiences, especially in the Olympics. I think I have now reached an elite athlete level with the performances I have produced in this long and hard year.”

After what seems a never-ending season, Dobriskey’s final event will be one of her favourites with the Great North Run next weekend.

The Commonwealth 1500m champion is looking forward to the event, but has agreed to end her season after and rest up.

She said: “I definitely need a break soon. It has been a long, hard, season which just seems to keep on going. I have got just one more race to go with the Great North Run and then I will have a rest. I really enjoy the event it is a lot of fun, but I go there wanting to defend my mile title.”

As for next season, Dobriskey has already set her sights on winning the World Championships in Berlin.

Ford in the mix for Kiwi coaching role

IT COULD be a winter of change at Canterbury this year with the news Graham Ford is the favourite to take over as coach of New Zealand.

The Kent coach is among five candidates to take over from John Bracewell, who will finish his six years with the New Zealand Test and one-day side in April of next year.

Ford faces competition from Australian Matthew Mott, former New Zealand cricketer Dipak Patel and Englishman Andly Moles, while current South Africa Test coach Mickey Arthur has also been linked with the post.

Kent’s director of cricket had previously distanced himself from the post, but it is believed he was due to be interviewed earlier this week.

Last summer Ford turned down a post as coach of India, preferring to stay with Kent and he has helped the club become one of the country’s top one-day sides.

In an interview with Kent on Sunday at the start of the season, Ford was coy about his future plans at the club and whether he saw his long-term future at Canterbury.

He said: “I do not look to far ahead, the immediate focus ahead is with this team and they deserve success. It is about giving them an opportunity to move forward.”

If he takes over at New Zealand, it will be the second time Ford has coached a Test side after having been South Africa coach in 1999 where he oversaw the careers of players such as Shaun Pollock and Lance Klusener.



MOVING ON?: Graham Ford is in line to be the next coach of New Zealand

The 47-year-old joined the county in 2004 where he has helped develop young talent such as Joe Denly, Robbie Joseph and James Tredwell.

Ford’s potential departure from Canterbury follows the news that batsmen Matt Walker and Neil Dexter have left the club for Essex and Middlesex respectively.

School calls on former England all-rounder Wells

FORMER Kent and England all-rounder Vince Wells has been appointed cricket coach at Sutton Valence School in Maidstone.

Wells, 43, enjoyed a successful 16-year first class cricket career which included four years with Kent.



In 1998, he was called up for the England one-day tour to Australia, and promptly underlined his credentials as one of the country’s top all-rounders.

Wells completed his county career at Durham in 2003, returning to Kent with his wife Debbie to start a business in Whitstable.

He has recently been assistant coach to the successful England Ladies’ cricket team, as well as coaching at the Kent County Cricket Club academy.

He succeeds former Kent and England fast bowler Alan Igglesden as the school’s cricket coach as Igglesden has now taken up a new post at Woodhouse Grove School in Yorkshire.

Wells said: “My aim is to carry on where Alan left off, introduce one or two new ideas, and maintain the school’s excellent reputation for cricket and other sports.”

He will also be helping with rugby and football coaching.

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MOTORSPORT
Sidecar ace outlines triple title attack for next season **93**



ATHLETICS
Lisa Dobriskey puts Olympic heartbreak behind her **95**

‘WE ARE WINNING PLAYERS’ RESPECT’

Top ref says campaign to stamp out abuse is working

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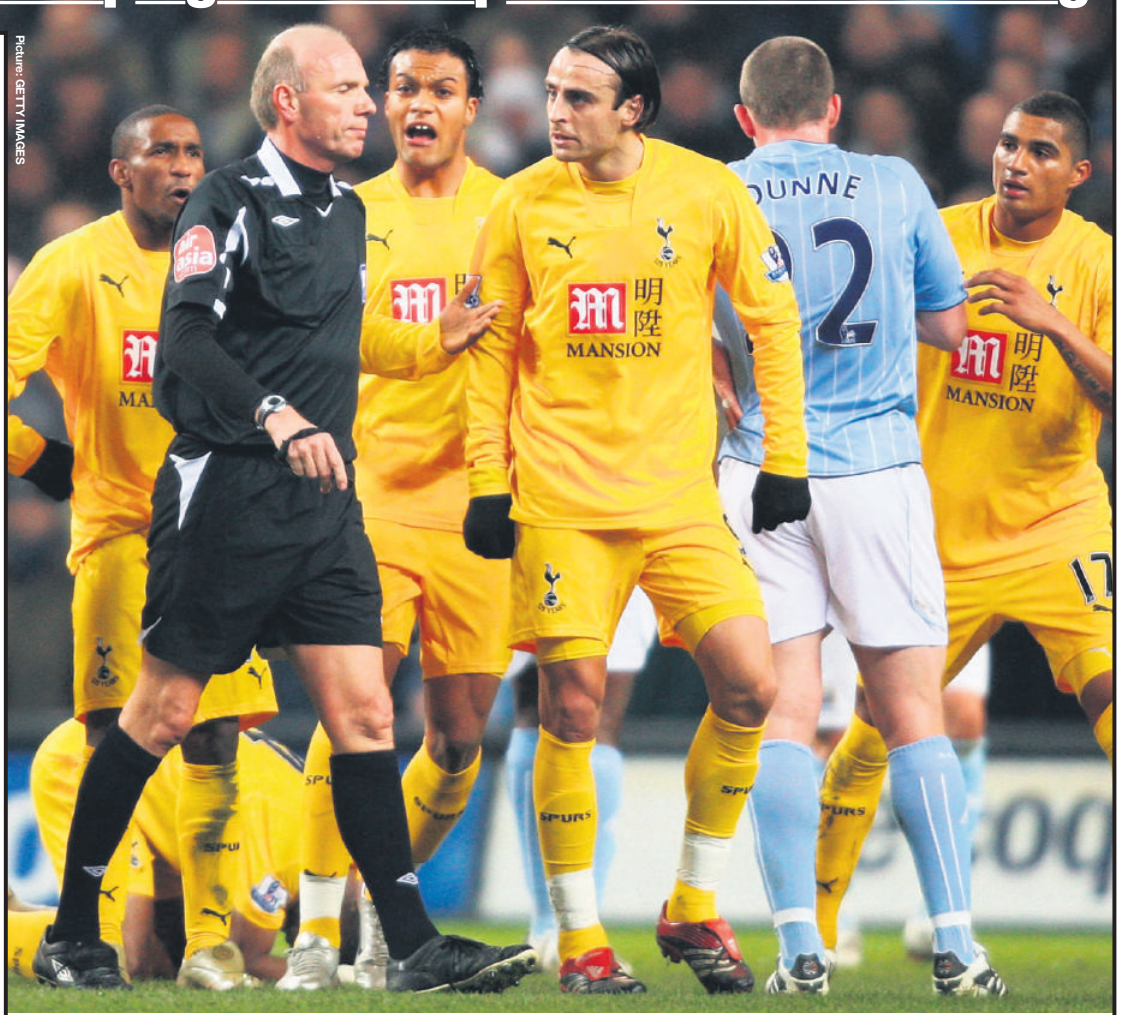
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Picture: GETTY IMAGES

ABUSE: Steve Bennett is surrounded by angry Tottenham players after sending off Didier Zokora in the Carling Cup last season

EXCLUSIVE
By **GLENN PEARSON**

PREMIERSHIP referee Steve Bennett believes the Football Association’s Respect campaign has stopped players displaying threatening behaviour to officials.

Bennett, who will referee today’s game between Wigan and Manchester City, told Kent on Sunday that relations between players and match officials have improved dramatically this season.

The referee, from Orpington, was surrounded by a number of players after sending off Argentine midfielder Javier Mascherano in last season’s game between Manchester United and Liverpool at Old Trafford.

That, Bennett hopes, will be a thing of the past after the FA launched its campaign in March this year and already the 47-year-old has noticed a vast improvement.

He said: “Some players on the field of play think they can get away with things but at the top level, we all have a responsibility to all levels of the game.

“If you were to ask anyone about why there was a need for this campaign, they would have come up with the same answer. You do not want to see players mouthing off and threatening referees or chasing after and surrounding them after a decision.

“Differences this season with the Respect campaign in place, have been very apparent. There has not been any appealing or surrounding of referees, which has been good.”

• ***Turn to page 94 to see how the Respect campaign has been rolled out in Kent.***

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39
9 771477 676005